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NEW PETROCHEMICAL PLANT TO BE BUILT IN LAZARO CARDENAS

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 16 Mar 82 pp B-1, B-9

[Text] Morelia, Michoacan, 15 Mar (OEM)--An important petrochemical refining plant will be built in Lazaro Cardenas which will supply products derived from oil to the Pacific coast and at the same time will send crude oils to the east. Reportedly, investments will total several million pesos; and this Thursday the plant's principal features will be made public when President Lopez Portillo lays the first stone.

In spite of the secrecy which exists in Mexican Petroleum [PEMEX] with respect to this project, it is expected that on Thursday the director of the enterprise will also report on investments and the scope of the project, EL SOL DE MORELIA has learned that this complex has already been approved by the president.

Prof Miguel Tomasini, PEMEX director of information, when interviewed on this subject, said that the project has already been described publicly in overall terms by the PEMEX Office of Project Management.

Among the actions to be taken is completion of the gas pipeline from Salamanca to Lazaro Cardenas. It was said that another pipeline will be constructed for gas and oil.

The installations of the petrochemical complex will be located on El Cayacal Island, where the MKS project for the processing of steel plates and pipes will also certainly be installed.

The importance of this complex is based on the fact that crude oil and the Las Truchas iron and steel industry, as well as natural gas, will process the black gold and send it to towns located on the Pacific coast; therefore, it will also be a point of export for our products to other continents.

Professor Tomasini said that the first magistrate will lay the first stone of the complex, after Julio Rodolfo Moctezuma Cid gives a report on investments and projects.

Yesterday in PEMEX, marked secrecy was evident to prevent release of information until the plant is inaugurated, which will serve as a landmark for the commemoration of one more anniversary of oil expropriation.

During an interview with PEMEX representatives in Lazaro Cardenas, it was said that for months the Department of Constructions has been conducting the required studies and that "investments are being adjusted; however, they total several billion pesos."

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CSO: 3010/1137

BRIEFS

EL SALVADOR RECOGNIZES GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT--Guatemala, 26 Mar (ACAN)--Alfonso Alonso Lima, Guatemalan foreign minister of the government military junta, announced today that the governments of Chile and El Salvador have recognized the new Guatemalan Government. The Guatemalan military junta, which overthrew former President Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia on Tuesday, 23 March, issued notes to the diplomatic corps accredited in the country, explaining the new situation in Guatemala. The Chilean Foreign Ministry was the first to report that its country had recognized the Guatemalan military junta. This afternoon Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonso Lima announced that the Salvadoran revolutionary junta had recognized the Guatemalan Government military junta. The new foreign minister said that they expect to receive the recognition of other countries in the coming hours. [Text] [PA270338 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0118 GMT 27 Mar 82]

CSO: 3010/1177

GALAN INTERVIEWED ON HIS '12 POINTS'

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 13, 14 Mar 82

[Two-part interview with New Liberal presidential candidate Dr Luis Carlos Galan, by Carlos Murcia; date and place not given]

[13 Mar 82 p 7-A]

[Text] On the eve of another electoral contest, the country is confronted with an unusual situation in Colombian politics: the phenomenon of a young man and a movement of opinion that have, in a mere 4 months, put the traditional leaders in difficult straits and succeeded in making all predictions both uncertain and unsafe.

The story is as brief and precipitous as the time of its occurrence.

Luis Carlos Galan's candidacy came into existence officially at the convention held by a group of idealists in Rionegro.

Galan leaped into the squares as a genuinely spontaneous figure, always wearing a red shirt; and it might be claimed that he stole the show. As he himself put it, he had to set his clock ahead.

The 12 Points

One of the items of Luis Carlos Galan's propaganda is a leaflet (always with the poster made by Carlos Duque as an illustration) in which the "12 basic points of a government program" are summarized.

In this dialog, the candidate Luis Carlos Galan devotes all his time to explaining the fundamental bases of this New Liberal program.

The presidential hopeful declares: "This is a response to those who claim that we have not made any proposals and have no solutions for the country."

We made an appointment with Luis Carlos Galan on behalf of the political staff to "analyze" his "12 points" openly and clearly, and we did so thusly:

1. To achieve peace, the lifting of martial law and the return to normal political activity of the groups currently in a subversive status.

[Question] In this respect, I must tell you, Dr Galan, that there does not seem to be anything very new; because you are well aware that both former President Lopez and the candidate Molina have made peace their cause; and, if we go further, President Turbay has concentrated his attention on this point in recent weeks.

[Answer] There is a great difference and unquestionable newness in what I have been proposing long before there was talk of amnesty in 1979. In certain columns of EL TIEMPO I remarked several times that peace would not be achieved through decree, and that there must be an amnesty with clearcut groundrules; in other words, through direct dialog with the armed insurrectionists. No amnesty can be effective if it is proposed unilaterally, as has occurred with the first and second (and also the latest) one of President Turbay. I have stated on various occasions that I am willing to carry on that dialog, which I shall do if I attain the presidency of the republic; and that I shall attempt to have those now excluded from citizens' activity become incorporated into it through new political parties. It is absolutely essential for us to become convinced that there must be a stop to this civil war which exists in our country and which has cost hundreds of human lives. It is also essential to become convinced that peace will be achieved with measures which attack the social and economic inequalities now oppressing our people, and that only in this way will it be possible to attain real reconciliation among Colombians over the medium or long term.

The People's Consciousness

2. To construct a real democracy; to insure the force of human rights; to create a political consciousness that will allow the people to participate in the direction of the state; to guarantee the rights of the opposition and that of freedom of information.

[Question] Dr Galan, how would you attempt to achieve all this, which now appears to be utopian?

[Answer] Obviously it should sound utopian in a nation wherein such things have been advocated and promised without ever fulfilling them. But I wish to tell you something: The construction of a real political, social and economic democracy is not a new goal. What is new is the will to accomplish it.

Colombians have lost confidence in their institutions and have become cut off from the major national decisions, because they have observed a veritable political oligarchy controlling the public corporations, turning the state administration into spoils which the parties distribute among themselves in portions after every election. Genuine democracy goes beyond a fair electoral debate; it must promote the people's participation in the direction

of the state, through consultations on fundamental policies. If the people control the state, the latter will really meet their needs, and not merely those of privileged groups, as is the case at present.

[Question] What role could be assigned to the opposition in this game of democracy?

[Answer] The democracy which I and those affiliated with the New Liberal Party uphold will be a mere illusion so long as the opposition is not given the role that it has within the democracy. The most recent example of what is going on in Colombia has just been given by the president of the republic, who threatened to resign before completing his term if, next Sunday (today), the opposition should win the elections. It would appear that opposition means subversion to the head of state and to many politicians of our times, and the mere mention of it is considered a threat to the stability of the institutions.

[Question] You have also included under this point a reference to human rights. Of what does your idea in this regard consist?

[Answer] If we analyze national life in all its aspects and all its realities, we note that there is a constant and virtually permanent violation of human rights, which are simply the right to life, to physical and mental integrity, to defense, to free association and labor union organization, to strike, to mobilization and demonstration, to speech and information, to health, to housing, to employment, to education, to participation in national decisions, in short, to political opinions whatever they may be. Doesn't it seem to you that we are not exactly an example of respect for human rights?

But, in this connection, the right to information is one that is being violated daily and constantly, by the government itself. In our country, the concept has been distorted, and we often view with amazement the programmers who are, simultaneously, owners and editors of the news media defending themselves from the criticism of their bias with the rather shocking argument that they "too have a right to freedom of speech" and that they can say what they like, among other things because they bear the cost of the television and not those who own television sets.

Moreover, there is no doubt that the state has ignored the true importance of the news media. It turned over radio in a disorderly manner, as well as television, to private interests, putting them in the service of known political movements. Colombian television needs a system based on incompatibility which will ban the concentration of economic, political and informational powers, and which will lead to a truly democratic representation of the various sectors of public opinion.

A state channel with national coverage should be intensified, and constant dialog organized among the country's major cultural regions; and the educational, informational and creative objectives pertaining to television should be met. However, this does not mean that television should be exclusively state-owned.

Sovereignty

3. To defend the national sovereignty and to carry out a foreign policy that will insure Colombia a worthy role in Latin America and the world.

[Question] This is one of the points which you have been stressing, and it apparently has not been entirely understood, because you include in it both foreign policy and the development of natural resources. Could you expand upon this a little?

[Answer] It would take a very long time to explain in all its dimensions, but it will suffice to understand that Colombia has ceased to be important in the international realm, to the point of becoming nonexistent where the affairs of the Caribbean are concerned, primarily because of the poor management of its foreign policy in recent years. I have said that the Foreign Ministry should retrieve the importance and significance of other times, when it had not yet been turned into bureaucratic and patronage-related spoils. As for the defense of the natural resources which, of course, is related to sovereignty, it would suffice to analyze the contracts signed by Colombia in the areas of oil and coal, as I have done for some time.

Renew the Corporations

4. To achieve the independence of the three branches of public authority; to modernize the instruments of the jurisdictional branch in order to make it speedy and effective; to renew the Congress and the public corporations.

[Question] How do you interpret that independence of the branches of public authority?

[Answer] The national crisis is visible in the branches of public authority, the administration, the Office of the Comptroller General of the Nation, the Office of the Attorney General and the operation of the departments and municipalities. The jurisdictional authority has been deprived of the autonomy and independence stipulated by the National Constitution, and the beggarly situation in which it finds itself has deprived it of the instruments that it requires to meet the needs of the growing population. The social and economic status of judges and magistrates must be protected, so as to improve their living conditions and the welfare of their families.

I propose to establish compulsory fulfillment of the trial periods. Judges and magistrates must participate in the legislative debates, and so must the state advisers, the universities, the Academy of Jurisprudence and the bar associations, so that their experience and needs may be incorporated into legislation befitting the signs of our times.

[Question] How would you specify your proposal regarding the notion of renewing the Congress, one of your most publicized causes?

[Answer] To begin, suffice it to say that 95 percent of the congressmen who will be elected by the New Liberal Party this Sunday are not part of the current roster in Congress.

The political caste which controls the present National Congress has deprived Colombians of the right to an authentic Assembly that would represent the people. The Congress is executing a scandalous budget of close to 2 billion pesos in an abusive, unruly manner. This budget is equivalent to five or six times the amount of the salaries of all the congressmen. The congressional budget must be drastically cut, and of course it is imperative to put an end to the congressional tourism, and the trafficking in benefits and privileges among congressmen. It is essential that the Congress recover its autonomy and engage in the examination of the major national laws, instead of delegating its responsibility to the executive branch.

Battle Against Poverty

5. To eradicate poverty by organizing the state's social assistance services on behalf of the most unprotected sectors of the population, especially children, the aged, farmers and Indians, the unemployed and the retired. To give an impetus to preventive medicine, recreation and sports.

[Question] So you think that the eradication of poverty depends on the social assistance services?

[Answer] It is obvious that the eradication of poverty depends on economic development, and on the distribution of the property and income gained by the country as a whole.

However, in order to attain that goal on an immediate and priority basis, the state's social assistance must be directed toward the sectors which currently have fewer resources and opportunities. To the cleaning of the environment, nutrition and education which are basic for preventive medicine, the state must add recreation and sports on a mass scale, with sufficient funds in the national budget to lend the country a suitable sports infrastructure which will be in the service of all sectors of the population. Furthermore, it is necessary to make a distinction between a sports culture, which is a real social need, and spectator sports, the former being unquestionably a priority. But this does not mean that the latter is to be downgraded, especially when it is considered one of the best occasions of diversion and recreation.

Educational Plan

6. To establish a national plan for education that will guarantee 9 years of basic schooling which is free of charge and compulsory for all Colombians; and to develop a program aimed at intensifying the cultural identity, so that our people may have an awareness of their history and of their fundamental values.

[Question] At this juncture, when even many developing countries have solved the problem of basic education, that proposal does not sound innovative....

[Answer] I shall tell you again what I said before: To offer 9 years of basic schooling to Colombians sounds anachronistic, because it is actually inconceivable that this has not been a reality for a long time. However, until this is achieved there will be no truly productive educational plans, and the nation's cultural level will not be raised. Apart from this very specific intention, which should be backed by the necessary instruments for its fulfillment, without our observing the government again proudly announcing an increase in the school quotas in certain cities, while remaining silent about the situation and poverty of hundreds of thousands of rural schools, many of which are closed, and others without teachers, while a considerable number have illiterate teachers, this program must be directed primarily toward the workers, farmers, Indian groups and unemployed. Literacy campaigns must be created, with the direct participation of radio and television, for sectors of workers, farmers, Indian groups, unemployed, etc. These campaigns will be aimed at intensifying the cultural identity of Colombians, because the problems of culture begin with the illiteracy and cultural dependence of the country. The national cultural standards must be protected from the foreign ones, which not only are definitely not in the service of our society's needs, but also downgrade our society. The teaching of national and regional history is one of the fundamental factors in a cultural policy that will enable us, as Colombian people, to acquire an awareness of the effort made by the previous generations, and to understand the nature of the major social and economic conflicts of our nation in the past centuries.

[14 Mar 82 p 4-D]

[Text] Family Legislation

7. To organize the jurisdiction of the family, seeking its protection and unity, so as to restore its vital function as the nucleus of our society. To insure equal rights for women.

[Question] What is your view of family unity...does it have anything to do with a position opposed to divorce?

[Answer] The Colombian family, especially that of the middle to lower classes, has suffered, in its integrity (and in its unity) the tremendous impact of the country's social and economic situation. In most instances the internal conflicts which physically disintegrate a family originate in cultural, social and economic factors. The divorce which constitutes a sound and feasible alternative concerns and affects a very small sector of the population. The same thing holds true for ecclesiastical annulments. What should be discussed is not whether divorce is feasible or not, but rather the way to have men and women organized into a family married in a civil manner, so that they and their children may receive the benefits of the law. Later, they may do so through whatever religion they want. These needs of the Colombian people

lead to the creation of a family jurisdiction that will insure the efficacy of the present legislation, including such aspects as a code on minors, the current concordat, the conjugal society, civil marriage, concubinage, abortion and divorce, among others.

Insofar as women are concerned, it is essential to achieve a consciousness of equality and not competition between the sexes. For this purpose, there must be an easing of the burden that women have with the double work-day, achieving a view more in keeping with the current necessities on the part of men, who should share the household tasks and the responsibilities toward the children from birth, etc.

It should not be thought, as has been claimed, that it will suffice to spur development, in order to provide for women automatically. Specific programs must be created for them, which will facilitate their personal improvement, without detriment to the children and the home. But most of all, in addition to the family jurisdiction, the backbone of this program, it is essential to create a national awareness, that will counter our traditional machismo, and will give women the importance that they deserve in the society.

New Model of Development

8. To establish a model of economic development that will recognize the leadership of the energy sector; that will insure the profitability of agricultural, industrial and mining production; that will achieve full employment and modernize the systems for marketing goods and services.

[Question] Another model of development, Dr Galan? To be sure, you have introduced into it the innovation of the energy sector, but what is the difference from other proposals which have been thwarted in the past?

[Answer] When one talks about issues outworn by demagoguery or lack of fulfillment one always runs the risk of meeting with skepticism. However, the model of development geared to our needs and realities has not been established in Colombia. Furthermore, a considerable number of right wing political sectors and friends of the government attempted to reproduce in the country the models of economic development based on light industries which, as a rule, are only profitable if the wage system is curbed. And since such strategies are incompatible with a democratic system, those political sectors view with interest the economic miracles of certain totalitarian regimes in Latin America, where it is obvious that the cost of economic growth is borne by the middle and popular classes. Naturally, I could not agree with such views. In my opinion, a stimulus must be given to production, and specifically industry, in an efficient manner, so that it will be possible not only to produce earnings for business owners, but also suitable, high wages for workers.

[Question] And what about the energy sector in your development plan?

[Answer] The energy sector can and should have the leadership in the economy during the years to come. The proper development of the country's mineral resources, especially oil, coal, natural gas and the water resources, can serve as a basis for a model of development that will simultaneously achieve growth in the economy and the distribution of income; in other words, it will enable us to overcome the developmentalist models of the last decade.

[Question] You include in this point matters relating to the agricultural and livestock sector as well. How would you describe your government program in that regard?

[Answer] The comparative advantages that Colombia has, thanks to its climate and soil, should be in the service of the agricultural and livestock sector, in order to achieve our self-sufficiency and the possibility of exporting food to the potential markets in Latin America. My proposal is a tricolor revolution in the agricultural and livestock sector: the green revolution, which seeks increased production as a result of technological modernization in the planting and marketing; the blue revolution, which consists of making use of water for agriculture; and the red revolution, which demands a system of land holding that will insure its proper use and an increase in the income of the farming population. The first responsibility of the agricultural and livestock sector is to feed the 28 million Colombians of today, and the 38 million that will exist by the end of the century.

[Question] In some of your speeches made on visits to Colombian capitals, but particularly in Itagüí, Antioquia, you cited the industrial recession and the need to restore to industry the importance that befits it in Colombia's development. This is also another aspect of point 8 in your program. How would you summarize it?

[Answer] It is no mystery to anyone that industrial stagnation has lasted over 5 years in Colombia, and that for this reason unemployment, urban violence and insecurity have arisen and capitals as important and prosperous in other times as Medellín have been seized. Added to the growing unemployment are strikes, the closing of businesses and, in short, an economic recession in all areas. Industry has been hit by contraband, by the policy of lifting restrictions on imports and by the high interest rates which have diverted savings from productive investment to the financing of highly speculative activities. I propose that Colombia now undertake the expansion of basic industry, with or without private funds, to achieve an iron and steel industry that will at least meet the national needs, and lend economic autonomy to the country and stability to the manufacturing industry. A country without basic industry can never be really sovereign. It is also unquestionable that the generation of stable employment in the cities is not contingent on public works, but rather on the development of industry (large, medium and small); which not only produces direct employment, but also fosters the expansion of the tertiary sector of the economy.

The Financial Sector

9. To change the unjust situation of concentration of wealth, through a reorganization of the financial sector, equity in interest rates and democratization of credit. To achieve a genuine redistribution of income, seeking an increment in real wages and justice in the tax system.

[Question] Dr Galan, this point regarding the concentration of wealth has been a topic of several of your public addresses....

[Answer] Not only my speeches; it constitutes one of the prime concerns of my policy proposals. It is unquestionable that, during the past 8 years, we Colombians have experienced a twofold process of concentration of political and economic power. The ground that democracy has lost has been abusively gained by those associated with patronage in the bureaucracy and certain plutocrats in the financial sector. Small and medium-sized production (but for a few incidental exceptions) cannot achieve sufficient income to offset the interest rates that prevail in the financial sector. Speculation and profiteering have brought about transfers from the industrial sector to the financial sector, which cannot go on indefinitely without ruining the former, and the collapse of the latter will occur when least expected.

The financial sector, without any control on the part of the state, generated the monopolistic groups which have concentrated the wealth with the use of improper procedures, as was recently demonstrated in the National Congress. The government must establish a reorganization of the financial sector, to make it play its fundamental role in fostering production. We consider the democratization of credit to be essential, and the credit that exists must not be allowed to remain at the mercy of those who are strongest.

[Question] On one occasion you explained that attempting to improve the economic conditions of the workers in the informal sector at the expense of the income of wage-earners was a deception. Can you explain why?

[Answer] Simply because both comprise the same households. In other words, there is in a family the wage-earner who may be the father, and the informal worker who may be the mother, a street vender of cigarettes. If the latter's situation is improved and that of the former is made worse, the household still continues to experience the same situation.

Moreover, it is known that the working classes and the middle strata have had to bear the real costs of the development strategies, because the wage-earners have been the most hit by inflation and by the trends toward greater concentration of income. Although it is true that the weakest areas must be given assistance, the income and real wages of the others must be improved. The tax policy must be one of the fundamental instruments of the general economic policy; and there is an almost unanimous demand from the nation for deepseated reforms in the present system, if there is a desire to attain the social goals and those of growth that have been assigned to the tax system.

Decent Housing

10. To direct the country's physical and social infrastructure toward achieving more suitable placement of the population, taking into account the economic features and potential of the great regions of Colombia. To guarantee the right to decent housing and the rendering of fundamental public services with fair rates.

[Question] With this intention, are you seeking to organize Colombians geographically and to achieve a redistribution of the population, so to speak?

[Answer] It is already known that the accelerated process of urban development took the administrative systems of the leading cities by surprise, and no planning program anticipated the overwhelming migration which made virtually all the administrative instruments insufficient and inadequate. There must be a search for planning and establishment of priorities that include such important matters as the organization of local democracies, the revision of authority and resources of the territorial entities; the responsible, technical updating of the censuses; the issuance of effective police codes; the organization of public service companies and their financing; the issuance of a construction code; the streamlining of transportation; the transformation of subnormal areas, and the protection of the popular districts; the creation of employment; the protection of the environment, etc.

Prominent among the key points in the urban problem is the availability and use of the soil. I consider it necessary for the state to intervene in the urban land market, so as to curb the disorderly growth of the leading cities, and to back the creation of "land banks" so that the income from increased urban valuation may be collected by the community on behalf of the popular sectors. Until there is a reduction or control of land prices, very little or nothing can be done on behalf of popular housing. A new mentality must be encouraged in the state to cope with the housing problem.

Public Services

[Question] What can you offer by way of providing public services and their rates?

[Answer] We Colombian citizens have recently experienced the consequences of a very poor administration, reflected in defective (or in some instances non-existent) services, and disproportionate rates with which the companies attempt to cover their deficits.

The entire population must be provided with suitable public services, and users must be protected against the increasing abuses in the systems for liquidating accounts receivable; and, in particular, there must be a direct battle against the patronage system that has invaded the leading public service companies, with serious damage to their proper operation, and to the expansion and improvement of the services themselves. There is a major

financial problem in most of the companies, the main cause of which is the burdensome loans to which they are bound; and it is not fair that the only means of solving it should be an accelerated, indiscriminate rise in rates.

11. To modernize the state's administrative apparatus, to establish administrative careers and to redefine the functions among the various territorial entities for actual decentralization. To eliminate the corruption, mediocrity and patronage in public administration.

[Question] How do you expect to modernize the country's administrative apparatus?

[Answer] The public administration seems to have been especially arranged not to work: the instability among officials and decisions; the absence of a juridical quality in the latter; the incompetence of certain officials and employees; the lack of community participation in the administration.

In order to curb the abuse of authority and the tyranny that are present in public administration, the latter must have political responsibilities that will make it possible to initiate proceedings for citizens found guilty, whose convictions prevent the person convicted from holding public office for life.

[Question] What are your proposals regarding civil service?

[Answer] The civil service must be reformed, guaranteeing stability for officials who, despite the fact that they are associated with the administration, do not perform typically political functions; in other words, the civil servants who do not make decisions nor have autonomous authority to commit the state. These workers should have an opportunity to negotiate their salary rights with the government. The civil service must be a curb on patronage, and allow association with the administration for individuals versed in the fields who are performing functions inherent in their positions, without having the power of association depend on the political groups.

A clearcut distinction must be made between the political function and the definitely administrative and bureaucratic function. Anyone who moves from an administrative career post to another of a political nature should lose the civil career protection, so as to prevent unremovability from positions involving political responsibilities.

[Question] And what about administrative decentralization?

[Answer] I support the administrative, economic and cultural decentralization of the country as a system for developing political democracy and a guarantee of efficiency in the handling of public funds.

I deem it feasible to restore the provinces as instruments for associating and integrating small municipalities, without this giving rise to new bureaucratic structures. I consider it fitting to develop the system of

metropolitan areas called for by the Constitution, and the organization of local administrative districts which will bring the government of the cities closer to their inhabitants, and allow for the people's participation in studying the community's problems. I support the popular election of mayors and governors.

Revision of Contracts

12. To revise the contracts signed with the multinational companies, so that the exploitation of our natural resources will be carried out on behalf of the country's economic development and the prosperity of its inhabitants.

[Question] Dr Galan, how would you summarize your proposals on a revision of contracts with multinational companies?

[Answer] I have asked for the Colombian people's backing for a revision of the contracts associated with the exploitation of coal, phosphoric rock, nickel, uranium and hydrocarbons, in order to insure meeting the needs of the domestic demand and to establish effective controls on future production volumes; to increase the royalties accrued by the country, and to raise them in proportion to the increases in the volumes of exploitation of these non-renewable resources. The first contract the revision of which I shall calmly but firmly undertake will be that involving Zone B of the El Cerrejon mines, for reasons which are sufficiently well known to the public.

1909

CSO: 3010/1166

GALAN REJECTS OFFER ON REDRAFTING LIBERAL CANDIDACY

Lopez Michelsen Proposal

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 17 Mar 82 p 5-A

[Text of declaration by Liberal Party presidential candidate Alfonso Lopez Michelsen; issued 16 March, Bogota]

[Text] Following is the complete text of the policy statement issued last night by former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, in which he proposes a redrafting of the Liberal candidacies:

"When I was president of the republic, I proposed, as a precaution to avoid disruption within the parties, that we return to separating the elections for president of the republic from those for public corporations.

"Thanks to this reform, in 1978 the Liberal Party succeeded in surpassing Dr Belisario Betancur's votes in the presidential elections, despite the fact that the candidate Dr Julio Cesar Turbay's tickets lost to those of the Conservative Party by a margin of approximately 198,000 votes.

"I would not wish to reopen an argument that has already failed in Sunday's elections, stemming from the so-called 'Isla Arena letter', were it not for the fact that I deem it necessary to provide all the evidence to attain the goals with which I shall concern myself subsequently. In the aforementioned letter, I described how the abyss between opinion in the capital city and in the provinces has deepened, to the obvious detriment of national unity. The contrast between the election results of 14 March backs my claim. I also noted that the party needed the assistance of the regional political leaders to guarantee its survival in the government; and I scored the artificiality and inconsistency involved in creating a contrast between a supposedly national country and a political country. With but few exceptions, all those who take part in politics, including the journalists, are at the same time members of the national country, as professional people, farmers, merchants or industrialists. A political party cannot be run without politicians, much less against politicians.

"If there is a desire to restate the situation sincerely, as I wish, so that the party may offer the nation a strong government, both of us sides will have to learn the respective lesson well.

"Seldom has such self-effacing service been rendered to a cause as was rendered the Liberal Party by the regional leaders on 14 March. This is an acknowledgment that I, as a leader, must make in the name of the Liberal Party. So long as we can count on their cooperation, the party will manage to defend itself alone.

"The results reported from the 14 March elections have thus far shown a considerable advantage, of which I am proud, for the Liberal Party, represented by the candidates associated with the Medellin Convention.

"If, in 1978, when the majority candidate lost to the combined Conservative votes, it was possible to win in the presidential election, it may well be presumed that there will be a similar victory in the elections of 30 May. Nevertheless, the experience of 1978, based on precedents set in certain departments, has shown us that the dissidents' votes are inclined to favor the Conservative candidate by preference, as part of the notion that the fall of the Liberal Party is better than the consolidation of the existing leadership.

"I agreed to put my name at the party's disposal at a time when my colleagues in the leadership, the former Presidents Lleras, opted to refrain from attending a meeting that had been called at their wish, specified in rules drawn up by former President Lleras Restrepo himself, and overseen by a Court of Guarantees consisting of Liberal citizens with an irreproachable background.

"Until the last minute, in talks held with Dr Virgilio Barco, I urged him and his friends to attend the convention, so as to propose that the 14 March elections be used to settle the Liberal candidacy. For reasons which it is not pertinent to air in this document, it proved impossible for us to put this procedure into practice, one which might have become a solution between the opposing forces. When Senator Alberto Santofimio Botero proposed it to the members of the convention, I clearly explained the reason for my negative vote, because I felt that it would open up another controversy in the already split group.

"Having been chosen to take up the cause of my party at the Medellin Convention, despite my repeated statements that I did not aspire to that honor, which I had not sought either covertly or overtly, I spared no effort in recent months to win the victory which we are celebrating today, following a remarkable physical, intellectual and moral effort, with the aid of my colleagues. It was my intention to put in the service of an unruly, financially bankrupt Liberal Party the contribution of a desire to do battle, and an influence which it had long ago on large sectors of public opinion; and, in particular, to identify the red group with the slogan of peace and security for Colombians, the essence of which is gaining greater penetration by the hour among those who discern an uncertain future on the horizon, with concern.

"This political enterprise, which has assumed the nature of a great crusade, would demand, for its successful culmination, a volume of votes even larger than those won by the legitimist Liberal Party in the elections that have

just taken place. Hence, despite the fact that the Liberal Party had individually defeated each one of its rivals, to impose peace as a demand from the public, I felt that a vote with far greater national and international significance would be essential.

"To negotiate an actual peace, the civil authority must, as stipulated in the Constitution, operate without restraints of any kind, in directing a policy of national reconciliation, so as to restore serenity to Colombians, spreading a mantle of pardon and oblivion over certain crimes which were not atrocious. This is something on which there are no essential differences among the Liberals who are seeking a political solution to a problem of a public nature. To a certain extent, it is a matter of accepting the fact that, along with political crimes themselves, there coexist others, described as common crimes but inseparable in instances of armed struggle, which must be viewed in the light of the laws of war between nations, if there is an attempt to grant genuine amnesty. For example, on the occasion of the Pasto coup in 1944, members of the National Army who had committed violations of military discipline, but also violations of the Constitution of the Republic and of the Colombian Penal Code, were amnestied, and even subsequently rehabilitated. And, looking back far earlier, during the era of the civil wars, although there was no kidnapping or extortion as we know them, the great heroes of our parties were not dissociated from forceful confiscations or cattle rustling, if taking over the livestock of others to feed the troops when on a campaign is considered to be such.

"As I have stated on repeated occasions, peace demands a government with strongly backed opinion which will lead the national conscience to the conviction that a substantial improvement is necessary in the Armed Forces' personnel, as well as an exploration, such as President Turbay has been making, of conditions whereby consideration could be given to the lifting of the martial law after the armed insurrectionists are reincorporated into civilian life.

"The survival of the Liberal Party in the government is something which forces me, in my capacity as single leader of the group, to act with greater circumspection, making the party's permanent interests take precedence over any consideration based on self-pride. I am rendering a service, and not nurturing an ambition.

"Under these circumstances, and since the most authoritative spokesmen of the opposition to my candidacy have mentioned the possibility, in the event that my name did not obtain over 2 million votes and Senator Galan did not obtain over 500,000 votes, of redrafting the conditions which do not appear to have been met. Therefore, insofar as I am concerned, I am quite willing to heed the invitation that has been constantly offered to me for a reexamination of the situation, despite the fact that I have exceeded the limit of 2 million which had been set for me. I hope to learn of the solution (as the entire Liberal public opinion hopes), a solution certainly contemplated by the one who placed this proposal in the columns of EL TIEMPO, which I shall back if it will be a means of progressing along the path of peace and that of keeping the Liberal Party in the government.

"Without shrill triumphalism, which befits neither the present time nor my manner, I urge those who joined me with their votes on 14 March to await, with a constructive outlook, the results of this invitation to a redrafting which has been suggested to me for weeks.

"I gratefully salute those who created this victory, making no distinction between those who enhance the Liberal program with their unexcelled intellectual contribution and the unassuming ordinary people who, without receiving praise or compensation, devote themselves in one election after another to stuffing envelopes, so that the popular vote will once again attest to Liberal majorities, as occurred in the election of 14 March.

"The plebiscite which I promoted on our party's affiliation with the Social Democrats turned out in favor of our proposition, with the overwhelming majority vote that gave us the victory in the electoral process. Actually, as I noted in my speech at the closing of the campaign in Cali, the backing that we have received from the popular sectors throughout the entire nation has confirmed the half-century old commitment to lead the party toward democratic socialism. If our opponents had won, we would surely not be discussing the matter, but rather would be persevering, as they proposed, in setting ourselves up as a barren island amid a world of internationalized parties.

"Thirty years ago, there constantly circulated among the blue party forces the fascist saying to the effect that 'what is important is not peace, but victory.' Let it not be said in the future that a former president and former head of the Colombian Liberal Party put victory ahead of peace, but rather that, when the victory had already been won, he still considered peace and the interests of his party, placed in his safekeeping, to be most important.

"Bogota, 16 March 1982."

Offer Rejected by Galan

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 17 Mar 82 pp 1-A, 10-A

[Article by Carlos Murcia: "Galan Does Not Accept Lopez's Proposal"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday, the Liberal Party's situation underwent further shocks, only 2 and a half months before the elections in which Dr Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's successor in the presidency of the republic will be chosen.

Former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, who received over 2 million votes in the elections of 14 March, left open last night the possibility of a "redrafting" within the party; but Dr Luis Carlos Galan categorically announced that he would not accept any mediation, and would not be a party to compromises of any kind either.

Last night, after hearing the excerpts from Lopez Michelsen's statement, Dr Galan Sarmiento declared: "A mediation is not viable, because our votes are free and conscious; and they cannot be turned over to anyone, much less the government party."

Galan Does Not Accept

Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento (with nearly 600,000 votes) rejected his participation in a dialog with the Lopez leaders, regarding it as a mere political maneuver; and, on the contrary, announced that he would not take part in compromises, negotiations or capitulation of any kind, nor be a party to new political traps. He then stated emphatically: "I don't know what Dr Lopez is proposing, but let them hold a dialog there; because, as one can infer from that statement, we mean nothing to him."

The presidential candidate remarked that what occurred on Sunday throughout the country precisely confirms the need for renewing Colombian democracy and for persevering in the defense of the propositions that he has been setting forth in the public squares, to put an end to the corruption and to afford Colombians the opportunity to express themselves freely and honestly at the polls. He added: "The results in Bogota proved that it is, indeed, possible to defeat patronage and machines. The rest of the nation will gain more confidence in its political action as it observes what was achieved in the capital. There are many cities and many departments in which the duration of our work has not exceeded 2 months."

EL ESPECTADOR asked Dr Galan Sarmiento: "Does this mean that you will not accept the proposal made by Lopez for any reason?" He replied:

"I shall not yield in what I have been upholding, but it seems to me that Dr Lopez's statement is logical, inasmuch as he must realize that he cannot guarantee a Liberal victory. I, on the other hand, can guarantee it; I can guarantee a Liberal victory. If they allow me to be the only candidate of the Liberal Party, and if I am afforded the leeway for representing the entire party, I can guarantee victory. But, I repeat, I shall not enter into any compromises, because I do not agree with politics based on negotiations, such as those which have taken place in other scenarios, with different leaders. That has nothing to do with me."

Victory March

Galan disclosed that he has received calls and messages from at least 80 percent of the leaders of the New Liberal Party in the country, expressing their solidarity with the decision to continue until the elections of 30 May, and that, therefore, he will not revoke it. He expressed complete assurance of the loyalty of the congressmen, deputies and councilmen elected by his movement, and also stressed the fact that, in Bogota, the stickers and signs seen before the elections on vehicles and residences have not been removed. He emphasized the strong, determined support that his candidacy has received among Liberal women, stating: "I have received terrific pressure from Bogota and the entire country to maintain the position that we assumed at the outset. I have noted in particular that the women are very definite and upright in their political position."

Galan also said that, next Friday, he will head a "victory march" in the capital of the republic, which will begin at 34th Street, proceed along Route 7 and end with a demonstration at Plaza de Bolivar.

Galan claimed that there is a desire to frighten the Liberal Party with the threat of a victory for the Conservatives, to force it to vote necessarily for Lopez, as if the alternation of the parties were not one of the risks of democracy that must be run in any country. "If that were not the case, it would suffice to issue a constitutional reform banning the free activity of the political parties and groups." He expressed the view that power should be won in open competition, and not on the basis of the politics of fear.

2909

CSO: 3010/1140

DETAILS ON ARRESTED ARMS DEALER AMAYA PULIDO

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Feb 82 p 18-A

[Article by Cesar Vallejo Restrepo: "Third M-19 Arms Agent Arrested"]

[Text] Official sources confirmed to EL TIEMPO that the international arms trafficker for the M-19, Jesus Antonio Amaya Pulido, alias Chucho, was captured by the army in Bogota a few days after returning from Cuba.

After Jaime Guillot Lara and Johny Crump Perez, Amaya Pulido was the third most important person in negotiations between the M-19 and drug traffickers, and it was he who presented and recommended the guerrilla leaders to the then Cuban ambassador in Colombia, Fernando Rabelo Renedo.

As it has been established, Amaya Pulido made contacts in Bogota in August 1980 for the first arms unloading, and he passed on the contacts to Crump Perez, who was staying in the house of Commander Rene Rodriguez Cruz in Havana.

Rodriguez Cruz was an official of his country's embassy in Bogota, and he returned to Havana after Colombia broke diplomatic relations with Cuba. He is now president of the Cuban Institute for Friendship With Peoples.

The secret state organizations also established that Rodriguez Cruz paid several visits to the M-19 guerrillas in Putumayo, several times accompanied by Gonzalo Bazolss, Jaime Guillot and Johny Crump.

As negotiator between drug traffickers and the M-19 guerrillas, he suffered setbacks, because on several occasions boats loaded with marihuana were seized, among them the "Tels Star" in which the marihuana was being transported to the United States.

He was also involved in the arms transport for the M-19 on the boat "Fredy ", which was the first shipment of that kind that the drug traffickers were able to get to the rebels.

The successive blows delivered to international drug trafficking by the army and Interpol left the arms dealers in a difficult economic situation, and Amaya had to ask for a bank loan.

Using credit cards in a Bogota credit institution, Amaya got a loan for almost 10 million pesos, which he handed over to Crump Perez for purchasing cocaine.

The branch bank was obliged to go to court against Crump and Amay, because they did not cancel the obligation.

Military sources emphasized the capture of Amaya and said that after the arrest of Amaya, Crump Perez and Guillot Lara, arms trafficking by the M-19 has suffered great setbacks.

Collaborating with Colombian authorities in the investigations to dismantle the trafficking network are organizations like Interpol and the FBI.

Official spokesmen said that those joint operations have produced positive results, and more than 30 persons were arrested among mafia members and guerrillas.

9746

CSO: 3010/1062

ANTIELECTION PLANS OF SUBVERSIVES UNCOVERED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Feb 82 p 19-C

[Article by Rafael Sarmiento: "Plan to Sabotage Atlantic Coast Elections Uncovered"]

[Text] Barranquilla, 25 Feb--Authorized sources of the Second Brigade stationed in this city reported that military intelligence services discovered plans by subversive groups to sabotage the elections in this section of the country.

Subversive cells were discovered in different regions, such as La Mojana, Guaranda (in Sucre and part of Bolivar), and in the territory bordering Venezuela in the Department of Cesar, where according to the sources there would be a guerrilla cell receiving information and support from some priests. Second Brigade military intelligence also said that "based on the discovery of contact between the M-19 and drug traffickers, we found a number of indications, for example, that this subversive group relies on accomplices acting not out of ideology or political conviction, but for money."

According to the same source, this allowed the intelligence services to determine the activity of the subversive groups on the coast. Likewise, "of vital importance was the presence of Army of National Liberation ideologist Mauricio Trujillo, who, in attempting to defend himself, denounced many of his comrades-in-arms."

It confirmed that "the fact that the arms deal and the deal with the drug traffickers could occur on the coast indicates to us that the M-19, in attempting to reach its goals, is associating itself with all types of people, including criminals of the worst sort, as is the case in the hiring of several experienced assassins from among the local drug traffickers in order to use them in their kidnappings and murders."

A B-2 source indicated that the nation's armed forces in this section of the country "have not spared any details in order to guarantee tranquil elections, since we clearly have under surveillance the supposed elements that the M-19 will use in an attempt to sabotage the electoral meetings."

In regard to the supposed threats by the M-19 to launch incendiary bombs on election day, an official told EL TIEMPO: "We now even know whom they were going to count on for that work--persons contracted in the drug trafficking underworld, whom they even paid in dollars."

This same source, on being consulted in regard to threats received by Dona Clementina, mother of M-19 maximum leader Jaime Bateman Calo, supposedly on the part of the movement "Death to Kidnappers," said that "that is not right, because we have investigated the case on our own, and it seems to us more likely that it is a publicity stunt by her."

9746

CSO: 3010/1062

STATION COMMENTARY CALLS FOR DEPORTING FOREIGN TERRORISTS

PA262215 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Once again we express our concern over the possibility that there are terrorist groups in the country. With the excuse that ideological and political views are being defended, common crimes are committed. We should be very careful in Costa Rica about labeling the actions of common criminals as political crimes. In Costa Rica there is no army, persecution of people or denial of any freedom. In Costa Rica, everyone has the right of access to the communications media. In Costa Rica there is no reason for political crimes. In Costa Rica, there is no reason why alleged terrorist groups should commit kidnappings and other illegal actions. We should be alert to the threat to our peace.

There is now talk of foreigners and criminals who should be imprisoned. Already there are guerrillas who tried to commit kidnappings and who have held up banks and who promote violence to finance foreign struggles. Those foreigners should not remain in the country. They should be deported.

We should not allow the foreigners who are guilty of kidnapping to remain in our jails, where they provoke revenge and endanger the lives of our modest police. The terrorists should be expelled from the country instead of being held in the national territory.

The government has committed a serious error by requesting and insisting that the hijackers of an airplane that was taken to El Salvador be returned to Costa Rica. This is a serious error because our jails will now be schools of violence and terror. Since the country does not have experience in this type of crime, our jails will become a danger for our police and our country. Those terrorists should stay in El Salvador.

The U.S. Government has made a mistake by forcing the Carazo government to bring back those terrorists. The terrorists should not come to Costa Rica and those who are being tried here should be deported, because we do not want them here.

If a law needs to be reformed in Costa Rica and if a law needs to be issued to try the foreign terrorists, it is one that establishes a summary trial and which calls for the deportation of these criminals to their own country or to another country.

It is time for Costa Ricans to close ranks in defense of our system of democracy and freedom. It is time for Costa Ricans to demand greater control of foreigners. Salvadorans and Nicaraguans have come to the country with absolute freedom and they have caused real outbreaks of violence, established organizations of terrorism and carried out attacks on the institutional regime. Salvadoran guerrilla bulletins and propaganda are issued from Costa Rica. Salvadoran guerrilla news agencies operate from Costa Rica. There is no reason why we Costa Ricans have to sacrifice our peace, freedom and dignity in the game of the big political and commercial interests being played by the Russians and the North Americans in Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. There is simply no reason.

CSO: 3010/1173

MEXICAN COLUMNIST REPORTS CASTRO STATEMENT ON PEACE, WAR

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Mar 82 pp 1-A, 18-A

["Private Network" Column, by Manuel Buendia]

[Text] During the discussion at which "Private Network" was present, Fidel Castro Ruz said that the current serious international tension will, in the weeks ahead, lead to one of these two options: peace through intelligent negotiations or "suicidal" war with its detonator in Central America.

And if the world has a chance to save itself--he added--it will be indebted to Jose Lopez Portillo, the president of Mexico.

To prove that he was not indulging in exaggerated rhetoric for the moment, Castro Ruz reiterated the scope of the speech Lopez Portillo made in Managua on 21 February. He again stated that he himself was ready to negotiate with the United States in order to expand the area of the Caribbean. "I am familiar with the adversary's thinking" but, he went further. He said that if Lopez Portillo's proposal on negotiated solutions were to be successful in the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan conflicts, peace would be possible in Africa and the Middle East, too.

He lauded the governments which have now become aware of the scope of the historic contribution made by the Mexican president; he had unusual expressions of admiration, affection and respect for Lopez Portillo and again expressed hope that "the Yankees" understand the way out with dignity the speech in Managua offered them.

"I see possibilities.... There is hope," Castro said when I asked him if he thought Mexico's efforts were headed some place--including Castaneda's meeting with Haig--towards easing the tension between Cuba and the United States.

On that memorable evening Fidel Castro would repeat many times that Mexico is playing "a decisive role at a decisive moment." Such was his insistence on emphasizing this theme that at times he seemed to be repeating it for his own benefit. He rested his beard on his chest, furrowed his brow, and said in a very low tone, "Yes, decisive role at

a decisive moment." In the next minute the seven words returned to his lips, but now the tip of his beard stretched out above his questioners; he raised his brow and started to wag his index finger as if he were in the midst of a speech in the Plaza de la Revolucion.

Deeply interested in everything that is happening in Mexico which he calls "the fatherland of the revolutionaries of the Continent," he warned--and with persistence, too--that he was inquiring only about the foreign aspect of Mexican policy and in no way is he admitting that he be presumed disposed to meddling in Mexican internal affairs.

A series of jokes about whether there would be Cuban representation when Martinez Corbala assumes his senatorial seat provoked the inevitable question of whether Fidel Castro would like to attend the assumption of power by Miguel de la Madrid.

The answer was not only a vehement yes, but Fidel Castro added the thought that a sizeable number of heads of state meet together on that date so as to lend "great international support for De la Madrid."

Castro keeps a vivid memory of the meeting he had with the future president of Mexico on 23 June last year in Havana. He pictures De la Madrid as a plain, intelligent man with quick perception. When he raised his glass in a toast at the end of an extraordinary speech--at a meeting of Mexicans and Cubans speeches were absolutely unavoidable--Castro did so for three reasons: the ambassador and his family, President Lopez Portillo, and Miguel de la Madrid.

Somehow they were sure 3 months before that Miguel de la Madrid would be the candidate. "The same thing happened with Lopez Portillo. I don't know how they do it, but that is the way it is," Mrs Martinez Corbala observed after Fidel Castro had left, it now being dawn on Thursday.

She, the gracious hostess, and her husband had to show the legendary leader, master of privileged political information, something about which he definitely did not know: how huitlacoche is made.

This and the pina colada episode could be embellished upon for a follow-up story. After all, it is not often one attends a dinner which begins in a truly unplanned way--when the commander arrives 45 minutes ahead of time--and turns into an unusual conversation with contemporary historical personages as participants.

The plumpish figure, 6 feet tall, who has been in the gunsights of CIA terrorists a thousand times; the impressive figure who has had a special place in the catalog of Reagan's and Haig's nightmares, appeared in his ever present campaign uniform. Olive green and black boots. On his left wrist a chrome Japanese digital watch, one of those cheap watches selling for the equivalent of \$20. Beneath his guerrilla cap, a dicky--also green; ordinary material, as though he had purchased it--at the last minute enroute to "Granma"--in a workers shop in San Juan de Letran.

A button on the right sleeve of his jacket was missing. But, it would have been impertinent to ask, "The commander has no one to mend for him?" because there, seated in the other chair was Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the most important writer in America a legend in our time, too. Tonight, the 10th of March 1982, we must remember as an almost magic event.

Flanking the ambassador, the minister of culture, Armando Hart, and the vice president, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, took their seats. Recognized as one of the intellectuals who has taken a great responsibility for the direction of the Cuban Revolution, Rodriguez is, on the other hand, a sharp interlocutor with a fine sense of humor and not the least bit solemn despite his being such an important communist leader. ("If I had not been a communist for 50 years, I would have been a likeable guy.")

The minister of agriculture, Arnaldo Milian, two vice ministers and other public officials of policy making importance were also in attendance. For instance, Manuel Pineiro, director of the Cuban Communist Party in America. In the Mexican group were Gilberto Borja Navarrete and Carlos Legaspi, engineers; Luis Moncayo Sanchez and Gonzalo Martinez Ulloa, attorneys.

And Fidel Castro was everything to everybody; from his jokes to those who did not, nor will they, know why he arrived inopportunistly at 8:15 down to his almost confidential speech, or his flood of memories about his adventures in Mexico while he was getting the revolution against Batista ready. Then he signled out a Mexican name, spoken by Castro with a mixture of affection and of gratitude: the name of Fernando Gutierrez Barrios.

9908

CSO: 3010/1107

REAGAN'S CENTRAL AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN POLICY ATTACKED

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 28 Feb 82 p 6

[Commentary by Teresa Mederos]

[Text] The American President, Ronald Reagan, has offered a new spectacle similar to those which on previous occasions were the object of collective criticisms by politicians, political leaders, parliamentarians, and the press in various countries.

In a speech marked by theatrical posturing, the resident of the White House spoke for 21 minutes before the Organization of American States to explain his "assistance plan" for Central America and the Caribbean which concealed great economic and military aid to the Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador.

The plan, designated as a "mini-Marshall plan," assumes an amount of \$410 million which the U.S. Congress will have to approve. The funds are slated for countries in Central America and the Caribbean which align their respective policies with those of the United States to create tension in the region bolstering Washington's aggressive attitude against Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada in particular.

However, this amount of money is insignificant compared to the high external debt and trade balance deficit of the countries that would share the 30 shekels of Judas, as some organs of the press have characterized Reagan's promised "assistance."

The genocidal Salvadoran junta would receive over \$100 million of the \$350 million of economic "aid" announced by the tenant of the American presidential mansion. At this time the Salvadoran Christian Democratic regime gets \$142 million in economic "assistance."

In the military realm the Reagan plan anticipates the use of \$60 million, more than half of which would go to the junta of President Napoleon Duarte in addition to the \$81 million which was approved for payment this year under that heading.

The figures are much more eloquent than the presidential verbosity. While a few million dollars would be spent for providing economic and military "aid" to the Governments of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti, the major portion of the plan announced by Reagan would be used to shore up the positions of the genocidal Salvadoran dictator.

Ronald Reagan's threatening and aggressive tone directed at independent countries of the region and his support for dictatorial regimes contrast dramatically with the recent proposal of Mexico's President Jose Lopez Portillo in his search for peaceful solutions through negotiations of the conflicts in Central America.

Reagan did not even mention Lopez Portillo's suggestions, which were widely hailed not only by the progressive sectors of Latin America but also in other parts of the world.

In contrast, the President of the United States advocated the formation of a "common front" against Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada and plans to smash the liberation struggles of other Central American and Caribbean peoples. These goals were clearly expressed when Reagan said that "the Rio Treaty of January 1947 commits the countries of the hemisphere to the mutual defense of our common democratic ideals."

Thus, President Reagan's speech before the Organization of American States is an invitation to aggression and an encouragement to the policy of strangulation and war reflecting the views of the most reactionary circles of imperialism striving to regionalize the conflict in El Salvador, to prevent the liberation of peoples, and to shore up their domination in Latin America.

2662

CSO: 3010/1105

ACTIONS OF TOP WHITE HOUSE ADVISERS CRITICIZED

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 23 Feb 82 p 6

[Commentary by Carlos Mora Herman]

[Text] The advisers of the U.S. president, Ronald Reagan, have come up with the thesis that the economic policy of the present administration relies on two basic principles: The lowering of taxes and the trimming of the budget.

They hold that revenues that do not flow into the government's coffers as taxes will promote private investment and the latter will stimulate industrial activity and employment at the same time that it generates larger tax inflows than those cut.

In the United States this is called "Reaganomics" and its principal technician is the director of the Office of Management and Budget, David A. Stockman.

But things are not as rosy as the believers in Reagan's economic plans depict.

All of the above is presented in what seems like logical terms, but the experts hold that economics is an exact science and that it does not allow for errors or pitfalls.

Not long ago, the periodical THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY came out with what was called "a bombshell" when it disclosed that the economic policy dubbed "Reaganomics" was invalid and that even David Stockman did not believe in it.

With a great sense of indiscretion the review presented the reasons disclosed by Stockman as to why he lost his faith in the soundness of the Reagan administration's economic plans.

In the first place, Stockman explained that cutting taxes introduced a Trojan horse which concealed benefits that would fall only on the well-to-do.

Such a policy, David Stockman added, was like putting an old adage into practice: If you want to earn money, give it to those who have a lot so that they can manage it for you.

Additionally, according to THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY, Stockman avowed that a computer which was installed in his office had confirmed his misgivings

regarding the figures in the budget, projecting that in 1984 the United States would run up a monumental deficit.

On the disclosure of these opinions by Stockman, long before President Reagan presented his fiscal 1983 budget to the Congress--a budget which has caused much turbulence--Wall Street experts openly stated that the economic program of the present U.S. administration could not be implemented.

Stockman agreed with the Wall Street experts.

President Reagan became greatly angered with David Stockman and accused him last year of a "lack of faith" in the country's economic program.

This was one of the cases involving Reagan and those who have come to be called his Rasputins.

Then came the affair of Richard V. Allen, the national security adviser, who was investigated by the Justice Department and was accused in September 1981 of accepting a check for \$1,000 from the Japanese periodical FRIENDS OF THE LADY OF THE HOUSE for arranging an interview with Nancy Reagan on its behalf.

A little later it was rumored that Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, was sitting on a powder keg, that is, was on the point of being ousted.

Haig commented on that occasion that "someone" was waging guerrilla warfare against him while Richard Allen, thought to be the "someone" referred to, disclaimed that he was involved in guerrilla warfare.

From the outset of this Republican administration's tenure there has been infighting regarding who is directing the formulation of U.S. foreign policy.

At one point it was said that there was a plan for the exploding of a nuclear bomb in Europe "if the Russians were to attack with conventional weapons."

Such a strange assertion did not entice any responsible publisher.

Caspar Weinberger, the secretary of defense, who is characterized by his wild anti-Soviet attitude, stated that he was unaware of such a plan; Alexander Haig conceded that he had some slight idea of it; Richard Allen confessed that he was not informed; while Ronald Reagan himself asserted that he knew nothing of the matter.

Everything remained ambivalent even though the disarray reflected some of the problems faced by the Reagan team.

But this did not keep President Reagan from declaring with a broad smile, like the one he wore when he used to play good cowboys in films: "We are a happy group," referring to the team of men who make U.S. policy.

U.S. DIRECTOR OF CUBAN AFFAIRS IN STATE DEPARTMENT SCORED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 23 Feb 82 p 6

[Commentary by Luis M. Arce]

[Text] Myles Frechette is not an ordinary individual.

He is ambitious like any law-abiding bourgeois, and a plate on the door of his office at the U.S. Department of State summarizes the story of his life and the direction of his thinking: "Director of Cuban Affairs."

It is not necessary to scrutinize his inner self to be able to know him well.

Now that the negotiations in which Myles Frechette is involved are in high gear, he hopes to highlight his endeavors with the excess of anti-Cuban zeal at the White House.

Fickle and frivolous like the wind which blows down from Alaska, Frechette undertook his trip south in pursuit of rewards.

His mission, he announced in Panama, had as its purpose "to seek a consensus with those Latin American governments which see themselves affected by the export of subversion practiced by the Cuban Government."

Such zest was interpreted by quite a few people as the prelude to an offensive against our country. Frechette's anti-Cuban pirouettes, however, tickled Panama's sense of humor when he asserted that the U.S. Government was seeking "to moderate foreign policy." A man-in-the-street cracked the following joke:

"In (United States) policy thing are likely to be felt as a thorn in the side--inconvenient and bothersome--and it seems that Cuba has placed these gentlemen in a prickly situation."

It is not a question to determine now whether Frechette and his friends suffer from such or such a disability.

The real thing is that Myles Frechette's tour coincides with the warning by CABLE NEWS NETWORK [in the United States] that the Reagan administration will try at the next meeting of the Organization of American States to invoke the

Pro Treaty in order to undertake what is known as "punitive actions" against our country, and the most probable thing is that it will play on the emotions of the continent to enlist it in such plans.

Frechette committed the error of beginning his anti-Cuban campaign through a country, Panama, where the Yankee boot continues to trample the sovereignty of that valiant and heroic people. Hence the just and firm rebuff which his words and threats encountered.

"Punitive actions" are not things that frighten us even when acts of aggression are perpetrated under cover of that highfalutin designation. Still, the Yankee emissary and the friends who sent him must take into account the fact that times are changing perhaps faster than they had envisioned and America today is not, fortunately for our peoples, the same America which had to bear the imperialist yoke silently. Modestly speaking, this is very important.

Additionally, Mr Frechette, don't get overwhelmed by your position as "Director of Cuban Affairs" inasmuch as it is the Cuban people who direct Cuba's affairs and nobody else.

2092

CSO: 3010/1105

FNP LEADER VIEWS ALLIANCE WITH PR

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Disraeli Guillen]

[Text] The president of the National Progressive Force [FNP] assured yesterday that that political organization could reach an important convergence with the Reformist Party [PR]

Dr Marino Vincio Castillo (Vinch) said that that convergence could translate into concrete results if Dr Joaquin Balaguer, PR president, "makes good on his statements to the effect that he does not want objectionable persons in his political organization."

He explained that the FNP arose as "an expression of dissident reformism," and that "any convergence of forces would have to occur based on questions of principle."

Castillo gave such indications yesterday during a ceremony to celebrate the legal recognition of the FNP and by reason of the beginning of the electoral campaign. Thousands of persons from various parts of the country attended the gathering.

"Any convergence of forces between the FNP and the PR would have to be based on questions of principle, especially where agrarian matters are involved, and also given the assurance that the vices of the previous government of Dr Balaguer would not be repeated," said Castillo.

The opposing politician also rejected an possibility of an alliance with the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD]. The reference to the subject was to clarify signals that had been given in relation to the position that he has held in analyzing the internal dispute in the governing party.

He confirmed that "it is evident that Dr Joaquin Balaguer is trying to make important adjustments within the PR," which, according to his understanding, implies a reform of the corrupt leadership of that political entity.

Dr Vinch Castillo stated that in 1978 the country needed the PRD to come to power in order to bring about the process of "making its leaders less mythical."

And he indicated that the PRD has a manifest incapacity to administer prudently the state apparatus, and that its leaders have shown little sensitivity for social change, which was demonstrated by its opposition to the 1972 agrarian laws promulgated by the reformist government.

He indicated that in 1978 the PRD leaders took advantage of the existing social situation to present themselves to the people as bearers of transcendental solutions. "And I was an unyielding opponent of that great hoax, of that great change swindle."

Also speaking during the ceremony were Celso Marranzini, first vice president of the FNP; Dr Luis Vargas, second vice president; agronomist Luis Estrella, secretary general; and Luis Amaury Fernandez, secretary for electoral affairs.

The political activity was transmitted by channel 7 from Rahintel, by Radio Clarin and by a chain of broadcasting stations covering the entire country.

9746

CSO: 3010/1054

SAN JUAN DE LA MAGUANA GROUP DEMANDS LAND REFORM

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 2 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] The coordinating committee of the Struggle for the Land, an organization located in San Juan de la Maguana, demanded that the government carry out a massive settlement of peasants within a period of at most 1 month.

The southern farmers demand the application of agrarian laws 289, 314, 290 and 292, which deal with leasing, large landed estates, rice farms and recuperation of state lands.

They demand that those laws be applied to the zone's landholders, including Lorenzo Alcantara, Tirso Rodriguez, the Mesas, Ramon Octavio Rodriguez, the Mejias, Camilo Suero, Benito Camara, the Marranzinis, Sucecion Ramirex, Ramon Lopex, Homero Paniagua and others.

The committee stated that if the agrarian laws are not applied within a period of 1 month, "we will begin the struggle that is within our reach, because we will not allow ourselves to starve to death."

Messrs Zoilo Ramos, Plutarco Taveras, Nilso Brea and Julio Ramos, speaking for the peasants of San Juan de la Maguana, said that 75 percent of the zone's peasants "are going hungry because we do not have a piece of land to work, where we can earn a living for our families."

They added that they were evicted from the land taken over by Sabaneta Dam and the national park, after a previous agreement that they would be given parcels.

They said that the region's landholders maintain control over vast land areas, in violation of the country's agrarian laws.

They declared that the recent occupation of lands in San Juan de la Maguana, which culminated in 1,500 arrests, was the result of a long interval of waiting.

In the letter sent to President Antonio Guzman, to agronomist Eligio Jaquez, Dominican Agrarian Institute director, and to other national authorities, the

San Juan peasants stated that they have been the object of abuse since they were evicted from the land now occupied by Sabaneta Dam and the national park.

They emphasized that in spite of this they will demand that the government comply with the agrarian law, and that every peasant receive a piece of land.

"We now see how the landholders are taking advantage of the sacrifice of this city's northern zone, and for this reason we now demand the land that by law belongs to us, in order not to starve to death," say the peasants.

"Otherwise, we peasants will be ready to fight to obtain bread for our children, who now wander the streets without finding food," they say.

They say that "this situation of hunger, lack of shelter and clothing, unhealthfulness, etc., accentuated after our eviction, is what has forced us to occupy lands whose owners have found means of evading the application of existing agrarian laws."

9746

CSO: 3010/1054

SALVADORAN REBEL COMMANDER INTERVIEWED

PM221327 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 17 Mar 82 p 11

[Interview with Lieutenant Colonel Martial, identified as commander in chief of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and member of the Higher Command of the Salvadoran Revolution, by Tariq Ibrahim: "The Salvadoran Revolution Forces Commander Tells AL-SAFIR: Our Aim Is To Force Washington To Negotiate or To Involve It in Direct Intervention in Our Country; Israel Interferes Militarily in the Affairs of El Salvador"--granted "while he was a guest of the Palestinian resistance some 10 days ago"]

[Text] Some 10 days ago Lieutenant Colonel Martial, commander in chief of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front forces and member of the Higher Command of the Salvadoran Revolution, was the guest of the Palestinian resistance. He met PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Fatah Central Committee member Khalil al-Wazir--Abu Jihad. He made an inspection tour of southern Lebanon to acquaint himself with the situation and the field mobilization position of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Martial is one of the most renowned Salvadoran commanders. He began his struggle as a member of the Communist Party of El Salvador and participated in the 1931 rising led by the famous Salvadoran leader Farabundo Marti, whose name was given to the present revolutionary front in El Salvador.

During this secret visit, which lasted several days, AL-SAFIR met and interviewed this well-known Salvadoran leader. He spoke about the flagrant U.S. intervention in his country, the fighting in El Salvador, and the allied revolutionary forces waging the armed struggle against President Duarte's regime.

He said: "I wish to stress that although we live in a different part of the world, we are fighting the same enemy as you are fighting in the Middle East. It is no coincidence that U.S. imperialism is doing its best to strike at the liberation movement in the Middle East and at the same time endeavoring to provide support for its agents in Central America and deal a blow to the revolutionary movement there. The U.S. strategic objectives in both regions are almost identical.

"We have risen against injustice and we are a thorn in the side of the United States which is playing a dirty police role in our region, both directly and indirectly through suspect alliances, especially the OAS, which has its headquarters in Washington and consists of 22 states led by the United States."

He added: "The United States tries to use this alliance to interfere in the affairs of Central American states. Former President Jimmy Carter tried to use it as a pretext for intervention in Nicaragua but he failed miserably."

"I can now say with certainty that Reagan's ambitions will have the same fate as Carter's. He will fail in El Salvador, just as his predecessor failed in Nicaragua. He is now preparing for an OAS meeting as a prelude to intervention in El Salvador. It is clear from the U.S. administration's moves that Reagan is now trying to play the election game in El Salvador but we are lying in wait for him. We control most of the main roads and we can cut them to prevent the elections and place Reagan in the position of facing two options: direct intervention similar to what happened in Vietnam, or negotiations with the front as a mediator between us and the regime."

"We have announced that our readiness for dialogue is equal to our readiness to fight. We have certain terms which we will submit to the Americans if the dialogue begins."

He said that El Salvador is at present in fourth place on the U.S. foreign aid list, after Israel, Egypt and Turkey, and the U.S. administration is at present preparing a big airborne force for the ruling military junta in El Salvador, especially helicopters.

He added: "This U.S. military aid to the fascist regime in El Salvador is part of the U.S. strategy in the region. The Reagan administration has begun preparing the regimes in the area to involve their armies against our revolution including the regimes in Chile, Argentina, Guatemala, Honduras and Colombia."

Lieutenant Colonel Martial added:

"We seriously believe that the United States will intervene in El Salvador, and we believe that Washington's aim is to strike at the revolution in Nicaragua after hitting the revolution in El Salvador. 'This is evident in day-to-day U.S. policy and in the military and economic blockade and information campaign against Nicaragua.'

"As you know, the U.S. Navy continues to blockade the Fonseca Gulf between Nicaragua and El Salvador. What is making the United States lose its senses and move firmly toward direct intervention is the growth of the revolutionary movements in the region. Revolutions are raging in Guatemala and Honduras."

Commenting on the U.S. accusation that the Farabundo Marti Front is a tool in the hands of the Soviet Union, he said: "The United States and the Western media, which are all biased, have claimed that Cuba, Nicaragua and the

socialist states are our sources of arms. We admit that we have relations with the socialist states, but that is one thing, while our armament is quite another.

"El Salvador is surrounded on all sides. The regimes in the neighboring states are U.S. lackeys. This is why it is extremely difficult to bring in arms from abroad. The U.S. Navy is extensively deployed in the gulf separating us from Nicaragua. This is the reason why we, like other unique revolutions in history, of necessity rely on ourselves for armament. We use tactics that have so far proved successful. We launch attacks on army camps and stores, especially those that are not very well fortified, to obtain arms with the least possible losses."

Referring to the recent offensive launched by the front on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the 1931 rising, he said: "We launched an attack covering a vast area and we committed large sections of our forces to the battle. The attack did not fulfill our ambitions, but we cannot say that it failed. We failed to take the camps which we have surrounded since 9 January, but we did benefit from the battle and, for the first time in our military history, we gained considerable experience in committing large numbers of fighters to combat without heavy weapons. Every fighter carried 40 rounds of ammunition for use and 40 rounds as a reserve. Most of that ammunition was used in the first confrontation with the army, and we ran out of ammunition. We learned after the withdrawal that the army's morale was very low because we destroyed many of its positions and inflicted hundreds of casualties on it. The army was surprised by the scale of our attack, although we only had three medium machineguns. The truth is that the strength of our offensive was due not to our firepower but to the masses supporting us and to the fact that the fascist junta and its forces were living in complete isolation."

Lieutenant Colonel Martial said that the front consists of several forces which are "united but not merged." Each one of these forces, he added, is independent as far as ideology and organization are concerned, but they have all agreed on one program calling for self-determination for the Salvadoran people and democracy in the country.

He said that the front's organizational structure is no secret and that it is a pyramid structure as follows:

1. The Unified Revolutionary Command, consisting of 15 members with an average of three members for each organization.
2. The General Command, which consists of the general secretaries of the five main organizations in the front.
3. The Unified Military Operations Section, which consists of committees directly responsible to the Unified Command.

The regular forces are divided into three parts: the special forces, the local guerrilla forces, and the popular militia forces.

He added: In addition to the general attack, these forces destroyed 20 aircraft at San Salvador airport about 2 months ago, including four Israeli planes. They also blew up the Golden Bridge, the longest in Central America, as well as 40 other strategic bridges.

On the possibility of forming a provisional revolutionary government, he said: "We really have not yet made any decisions on this matter, but in the liberated areas we have formed committees to supervise everyday affairs there. We have also organized local production processes and education there through the local militia. The areas under our full control constitute 25 percent of El Salvador territory. Fifty percent of the territory is alternately under our and the government forces' control, but our forces are fully in control of the roads and strategic bridges.

"Generally speaking there are four main areas where there is fighting every day. They are the western front, the central front, the eastern front and the middle front [as published]. We are in control of the Guatapa area 30 km from the capital as well as areas north of Chalatenango and Capapana. We also control the Peru Mountains area and La Paz Vicente and a very important position called (Cu Caran) overlooking the Pacific.

"As far as Nicaragua is concerned, we have a position 40 km from it, but it must be noted that a gulf separates us from Nicaragua, and that gulf is under the control of the U.S. Navy including the nuclear spy ship 'Enterprise,' which spies on Nicaragua and watches its coast."

On the role of the church and the part it plays in the conflict, he said: "The higher ranks in the church are playing a reactionary part against the people and the revolution, but there are democratic forces which participate with us and always support us. Many men of religion have offered themselves as martyrs for the revolution such as Francisco Romero. There are anti-fascist revolutionary religious societies. Many priests are members of the popular committees in the countryside. They are all Catholics. The Protestants have good relations with the regime and with U.S. imperialism, but we have managed to establish positions for ourselves among the poor members of that community."

Lieutenant Colonel Martial pointed out that there is as much an Israeli presence in El Salvador as there is an American presence. He mentioned the destruction of four Israeli planes at San Salvador airport as an example of Israeli involvement in Central America.

He added: "Israel is supplying Guatemala with arms and training its army. The army in Guatemala uses the Israeli 'Galilee' machinegun. Israel has sent espionage and psychological warfare experts to El Salvador to help the ruling clique there. These experts have recently entered the liberated areas and abducted some members of fighters and officials' families. Israel is also training Salvadoran units to fight guerrillas on the basis of the experience they have gained from the war against the Palestinian revolution.

"The ruling junta has killed 20,000 of our people since the beginning of 1981. This is in addition to the 30,000 killed over the years since the thirties. The orders of the Army High Command are to kill without mercy, leaving nobody alive. These crimes and terror have resulted in the evacuation of 600,000 Salvadoran refugees to Honduras."

Talking about the front's fighting tactics, he said: "In general revolutions in Central America have usually sprung from the rural areas, but since 1970 we have operated in the cities because of the population density. The army can easily reach the areas it wants in the mountains, but it finds penetrating the cities extremely difficult because of the tumult caused by pro-revolutionary masses."

In conclusion he said that El Salvador is a poor country with no abundance of natural resources such as oil, but it is famous for its coffee, cotton and sugar cane products.

CSO: 4400/186

ITALIAN PAPER INTERVIEWS FMLN'S ZAMORA

PM241513 Venice L'UNITA in Italian 19 Mar 82 p 15

[Interview with Reuben Zamora, deputy chairman of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front of El Salvador, by Nicoletta Manuzzato: "El Salvador Needs You Europeans"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] "We Salvadoran revolutionaries need Europe because our country's future democratic government intends to pursue a policy of nonalignment. This policy will depend not only on our will but also on the international context, on the existence or otherwise--even for small and underdeveloped countries such as ours--of real alternatives to dependence on the super-powers."

Reuben Zamora, deputy chairman of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, began our conversation with one of the subjects closest to his heart: the support which the European countries can and must give not only to the Salvadoran people's current struggle but to the future rebuilding process.

"This is not a new policy for us. Back in 1980 we started a process of rapprochement and of seeking alliances in Western Europe. There are even," he told us, smiling, "some people who maintain that the front looks toward Europe too much, neglecting some Latin American governments. But for us this strategy, which we could define as the diversification of alliances, is of fundamental importance. In any case I believe it is very important for the European countries themselves. You too need national liberation processes in Latin America and the Third World. You need them to pursue an alternative foreign policy, independent of the superpowers' interests."

[Question] Why did the situation deteriorate so soon after the October 1979 coup?

[Answer] The 1979 coup was prompted essentially by young soldiers. However, the young officers did not purge the army completely of reactionary elements and above all they did not modify the repressive structure that existed within the state security apparatus. This meant that power soon returned to the hands of the high-ranking officers who advocated reaction. This led to a confrontation which ended with our defeat and our departure from the junta.

[Question] What political motives prompted you to join the front, alongside such different forces?

[Answer] The Social Christian people's movement is at present struggling for the country's liberation. The fact that we are in an alliance with the Social Democrats, the mass people's organizations and the guerrilla organizations stems from the need to unite the efforts of all our country's progressive, democratic and revolutionary forces to defeat the military dictatorship.

[Question] Do you believe that there are any differences and contradictions within the Christian Democratic sectors that have remained tied to Duarte, or do they constitute a compact bloc that supports the junta?

[Answer] There are undoubtedly profound contradictions and differences within the Christian Democratic Party. Napoleon Duarte is one thing, while the party grassroots, who are bearing the brunt of the repression, are another. We would point out that the party grassroots have grown up during 20 years of struggle against militarism and for democracy and the fact that at present the top Christian Democratic Party leaders are allied to the fascist military does not alter the nature of the grassroots.

[Question] What about the international context? Do you see any hopeful signs in the stances of the World Christian Democratic Union, which has hitherto always confirmed its support for Duarte?

[Answer] Of course the World Christian Democratic Union and the Latin American Christian Democratic Organization support Duarte, but they cannot ignore the very serious and daily violations of human rights committed by the regime. This has created an irreconcilable contradiction which, particularly of late, has begun to cause splits among the various parties. For instance, in Europe the Irish Christian Democratic Party has publicly condemned the present junta, while the Dutch Christian Democrats explicitly stated at their latest congress that they do not intend to take any responsibility for what Duarte is doing in El Salvador. In the case of the Italian DC, we have seen that important sectors of that party, such as the Christian Democrats of Lombardy and some national leaders, are seeking a political solution, in open contrast to the stance held by Duarte, who is aiming at a military victory with U.S. backing. And we can see similar positions in numerous Latin American Christian Democratic parties.

[Question] In less than 2 weeks' time elections will be held, though only rightwing and extreme rightwing parties will be running. How does the front judge the pre-election situation?

[Answer] We believe that Duarte's election plan is encountering huge difficulties. First and foremost internationally: the junta invited 63 countries to send observers, but hitherto it has received only refusals, except in the cases of the United States, Britain, Venezuela and the Latin American dictatorships. At home the election process has meant only the legitimization of the most fascist sectors. We suggest as an alternative to these elections

the quest for a negotiated political solution. The front has sufficient military and political strength to provide a real basis for a negotiation process, to sit down at the negotiating table and to defend the Salvadoran people's interests. As we have always said, ours is principally a political struggle. If there is now a war in El Salvador it is not because we want it but because the military, the oligarchy, the U.S. Government have hitherto prevented any possible peaceful solution.

CSO: 3104/153

ALGIERS PRESS CONFERENCE BY FMLN'S PEREZ REPORTED

PM251003 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 12-13 Mar 82 p 7

[Report by Ali Habib on press conference given by El Salvador Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) representative Felipe Perez in Algiers on 11 March: "Algiers: FMLN Appeal in Favor of Portillo Peace Plan"]

[Text] "I appeal to progressive governments throughout the world and especially in Africa to support the Mexican proposals on the search for peace in Central America and the Caribbean--proposals based on respect for the Salvadoran people's sovereignty and right to self-determination." It was with that appeal that Felipe Perez, representative of El Salvador's FMLN and member of that movement's external relations leadership, started his press conference in Algiers on Thursday morning.

Let us recall that the peace plan put forward by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo in Managua back on 21 January for a peaceful settlement to the crisis in Central America and in the Caribbean is aimed at finding a negotiated solution in several stages to the differences between the United States and Nicaragua and Cuba on the one hand and at solving the El Salvador crisis on the other. Algeria officially supported that recently.

The front representative then painted a detailed picture of the present situation in his country and stressed that the guerrillas are in a crucial situation, at an important turning-point in the struggle which could rapidly lead to the final stage, since imperialism no longer has any choice but to negotiate or intervene.

With only days to go before the pseudoelections, Perez revealed, the rebel movement is stepping up its military operations, raising its combat effort to a higher level and accentuating the route of the junta's forces against a background of unprecedented economic paralysis and generalized crisis.

"The original pacification plan drawn up jointly by the United States and the Christian Democratic junta after our January 1981 offensive, aimed mainly at disrupting our logistics and completely halting our activities, has totally failed. Since December 1981, during the enemy's biggest and most futile offensive (Morazan) the FMLN regained the military initiative, and it has maintained it to this day."

Faced with the failure of that plan drawn up by six North American experts and submitted to the Reagan administration's defense secretary, the morale of the junta's forces is at its lowest ebb. "In this context the dispatch of 1,600 Salvadoran soldiers to the United States is a psychological measure aimed at demonstrating the Americans' unswerving support."

"It is important to mention," the FMLN representative also added, "a lack of cohesion within the junta, characterized by the strengthening of the armed forces' fascist sector supported by the Salvadoran oligarchy, and the growing isolation of those who support the Christian Democrats and their leader Napoleon Duarte. The Republican Nationalist Alliance (ARENA) Major D'Aubuisson's extreme right party and its paramilitary groups, which are responsible for most of the massacres of the civilian population, constantly abuse the Christian Democrats, who are disenchanted on the domestic plane and are seeing their support eroded at international level even within their own political current."

"The fascists are therefore seriously considering an alternative solution," Perez also said, going on to point out that the guerrillas' latest offensives were aimed primarily at improving conditions for a people's rising; namely:

1. Boosting the morale of the noncombatant population.
2. Testing out the means and capabilities of the fighters in urban zones.
3. Improving the politicoadministrative structures in the controlled rural zones and establishing new ones in the cities.

"We are aware that, the more our offensive capability increases, the greater the risk of foreign intervention." Turning specifically to that danger of intervention, the FMLN representative stressed that "from the diplomatic viewpoint, imperialism has taken practical steps in that direction, especially with the resolutions adopted by the OAS assembly in Saint Lucia and the creation of the Central American Democratic Community--a tool suited to all kinds of political maneuvers behind an economic facade. Next May, also within the framework of intervention, Washington will give the military junta a big consignment of helicopters, C-169 transport planes, all-purpose aircraft and A-375 specially equipped for antiguerrilla warfare, and Argentina will give it Cucara aircraft.

"Some of the dictatorships in the region like Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Honduras and Guatemala would join such an intervention," provided of course that it takes place, since, Perez stressed, "it is very difficult to organize for strategic and financial reasons and, not least, because of the reservations of a whole section of North American public opinion itself."

Felipe Perez also recalled that the 28 March election is merely a military maneuver to legitimize a dictatorship, to perpetuate "a de facto and not a de jure state. We will pursue our offensives before, during and after it if it is held."

As for possible negotiations, Perez stressed: "We are prepared to open them at any time. Democratic governments have taken many initiatives aimed in that direction. For our part we informed the U.S. State Department of the fact during direct preliminary negotiations, and we informed the UN Secretariat General by letter. It is quite obvious that such negotiations between representatives of the FMLN and the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) and the junta's civilian and military representatives must be held without preconditions, with an agenda drawn up by agreement in the presence of honorable witnesses, openly, before the Salvadoran people."

"They must relate to two essential points:

"The establishment of a new legal, economic and political system with participation by all sections of the population, especially the most underprivileged.

"The restructuring of armed forces purged of their fascist elements and including the revolutionary forces."

In reply to some questions, particularly on the guerrillas' arms supplies, the Farabundo Front representative revealed with a touch of humor: "It is the United States which is supplying most of our weapons, since we capture them. We buy the rest on the local and international black markets. Moreover we deny that anybody has the right to prevent a people from buying equipment for their defense from wherever they think fit."

"We want peace," he said in conclusion. "It is the Americans' intransigence which is forcing us to continue the war."

Felipe Perez gave his press conference in the presence of Sadek Zouaten, who is in charge of liberation movements in the Algerian National Liberation Front Party's External Relations Commission, and of representatives from Latin American and African liberation movements accredited to Algiers.

CSO: 3100/487

AMBASSADOR GAVIN ARTICLE ON NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT FAULTED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 16 Mar 82 p 7-A

[Editorial by Miguel Guardia: "The Nuclear Race"]

[Text] Argentina, Brazil and Mexico up to now are the only countries of Latin America to enter the nuclear race in an effort to gain time, in view of the possible short-term exhausting of energy reserves--in our case, oil--which would abruptly and regrettably apply the brakes to the country's development.

Of course, it is to be hoped that the nuclear work being done in Mexico will always be applied to peaceful uses, as the dictatorships of Argentina and Brazil have the goal--and perhaps have already achieved it--of possessing their own atom bombs, although who knows for what purpose or for whom?

In this regard, it is interesting to reprint some parts of a recent article signed by John Gavin, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, entitled "Mexico's Nuclear Energy Program: U.S. Viewpoint."

Gavin says that plans for an expanded nuclear energy program have attracted great international attention and interest since 5 October 1981 when the Federal Electricity Commission solicited bids from the manufacturers of several countries for construction of the first 2,400 MW increment of its nuclear program.

Interest has been such that we still expect strong competition between international suppliers. Mexican evaluators will be faced by an overwhelming task in the selection of the most attractive proposal which best responds to Mexican needs and interests.

"In the United States, we hope that American industry will take the initiative of presenting proposals which respond to this kind of bid solicitation. We officials of the U.S. Government feel that the proposed Mexican program is of greatest importance. We understand Mexican desires to acquire greater manufacturing capability in this area. What is more, we have tried to emphasize that for our part we are trying to establish the best structure for close, long-term cooperation between our scientists, engineers and industries."

"Many important factors speak in favor of tightening the bonds between Mexico and the United States even more than in the past in the field of nuclear

cooperation...We two countries are already enjoying close technical cooperation in the civil nuclear sector. The first two nuclear plants were constructed by the United States, which reflects the fact that light water reactors of U.S. make are the sources of nuclear energy of greatest acceptance and experience in the world. On the basis of these initial plants, Mexico has acquired experience in construction and in the use of U.S. technology. Mexican scientists are quite familiar with U.S. processes and capability..."

According to the ambassador--and what could be more logical--Mexico should continue to rely heavily on light-water reactors in the next stage of its nuclear energy program.

His statements are much more extensive; however, if you know how to read a little between the lines, you will understand, on the basis of what has been said, what all this means for us: absolute subordination in something as important as our survival, which is dependent upon energy, as is the case in many other countries.

8143

CSO: 3010/1137

DE LA MADRID, PRI STATEMENTS ON CENTRAL AMERICA

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 16 Mar 82 pp 1-A, 18-A

[Article by Jose Miranda]

[Text] Chetumal, Quintana Roo, 11 Mar (OEM)--While Miguel de la Madrid has reasserted here that Mexico is committed to nonintervention in the internal affairs of Central American and Caribbean countries, the National Executive Committee of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] has stated emphatically that "Quintana Roo will never be the bridgehead for a military crisis" in that region of the American continent, as "the Mexican Caribbean is prepared for peace, not war; destruction is threatening the region."

In this combination of concurring positions which ratify the conduct of Mexican foreign policy with the arrival of the aspirant to the presidency of the republic, the PRI adds that this entity "has remained on the threshold of a prewar scenario in which the interests of the great powers that are contending with one another for influence in the area are entering into the game."

And Miguel de la Madrid, presiding over the first campaign activity in Chetumal--ancient site of the Mayan chieftains--said one of Mexico's other commitments is to be alert and solidary so as to contribute to the efforts of the Central American area in particular to develop economically and socially.

For the umpteenth time he endorsed the basic principles of Mexican foreign policy which are unshakeable "because they are the product of Mexico's historical experience and because they are also the conviction of the Mexicans: unqualified respect for the sovereignty of all countries to determine their own destiny; repudiation of any kind of intervention by a country in the affairs of another country; nonintervention by the great and intermediate powers."

Taking advantage of his second campaign visit to the southern border, he reiterated that Mexico will always "have a friendly and fraternal hand extended to our Guatemalan neighbors, to our Belizean neighbors, to all Central American nations, to all Caribbean nations."

The Position of the PRI

For its part, the PRI National Executive Committee in a written statement set forth its positions in the following terms:

"In a world in which economic differences are becoming more acute and imperialist threats are springing up anew in the face of the birth of democratic governments which are struggling for self-determination, Mexico supports these governments with effective solidarity and the most intensive backing. Solidarity with Cuba and Nicaragua and statements in favor of the Salvadoran struggle have demonstrated the specific influence of our country in Central American and Caribbean politics."

The statement then referred to the North-South meeting held in Cancun in October and the commitments made by the participants and asserted: "The industrialized and hegemonic nations, however, have not yet given proof of having fulfilled these commitments and are avoiding adherence to the principle 'pacts are sacred' which has oriented International Law since its inception as the Law of Peoples."

"In contract, Quintana Roo State has remained on the threshold of a prewar scenario in which the interests of the great powers that are contending with one another for influence in the area enter into the game."

"For reasons of justice and coexistence, Mexico has always opposed the conversion of national territories in the area into an arena for the powers or into strategic zones for military and alleged security purposes."

"Aside from the norms accepted by International Law, the presence of enclaves which endanger the peace and damage sovereignties is inadmissible. Neither the Gulf of Mexico, Central America nor the Caribbean should be viewed in this perspective."

The Isthmus, Untouchable

"Therefore, Quintana Roo will never be a bridgehead for a military crisis nor will our borders with the area now in conflict be any factor other than one of sovereign definition and cordial communication. Our oil basin and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are the springboard of Mexican development; they will never be the subject of negotiation nor the front for imperialist ambitions because of their strategic importance."

SLC

CSO: 3040/1137

DETAILS OF DELEGATION WALKOUT AT PSUM CONGRESS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 12 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] The first political split in the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) occurred early yesterday morning during the opening session of the First National Congress. The dissenting group was headed by the coordinator of the Puebla delegation, Luis Ortega Morales, who last year, backed by the former Mexican Communist Party, was defeated in his bid to be rector of the Autonomous University of Puebla.

Ortega Morales himself reported this split 16 hours after his delegation had voted to withdraw from the PSUM Congress. Ortega Morales signed a press release in which it is stated that the Tlaxcala and Chiapas delegations had joined the PSUM walkout.

Ortega Morales is close to the group headed by Rodolfo Echeverria and Joel Ortega which a week ago voted not to affiliate with the PSUM.

In the place this Congress is being held, the delegates have refused to talk of the incident. The Party's press committee, which is now being run by Juan Jimenez and Jaime Trejo, also refused to talk about the subject.

Tension is now beginning to be felt at the Congress. The mass media only know that the PSUM delegates are holding a meeting, but the level of intensity and the nature of their deliberations are unknown.

The opening session of the Congress which began on Wednesday concluded at about 0300 hours yesterday. Eight hours later, according to the press committee, the working committees were established.

38 Puebla Delegates Walked Out

In a communique distributed by the Puebla delegation to the PSUM First National Congress, under the letterhead of its secretary general, Ortega, it is emphasized that the 38 delegates, who represent 1,917 PSUM members, "had voted to withdraw from the national congress."

The communique adds that this initiative by the Puebla delegates was also joined by the Tlaxcala representation, the Chiapas delegates and other

organizations of the country (it does not specify the names and numbers of these organizations).

The resolution adopted by the majority of the Puebla delegation resulted from the fact that the PSUM national assembly had voted early yesterday morning to accredit 13 persons with full rights as delegates despite their not having been elected by any regular action of the party of that entity, subject to the standards and procedures followed nationally.

"The chair of the congress was aware of the irregularity but yielded to the pressure and conditions of that group. However, this measure has all the characteristics of an arbitrary and undemocratic action which shatters fragile party unity," the bulletin adds.

For its part, the minority group of Puebla delegates, through Daniel Cazes, secretary general of the Autonomous University of Puebla, admitted that the fusion process within the PSUM has not yet gelled but that this important step should be taken so that the left can make progress in its political program.

In his talk with several reporters, he spoke about the possibility of an Extraordinary Congress in Puebla to resolve any differences, such as the one now present and to ensure moral and political authority within the PSUM activist sector.

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CSO: 3010/1137

SPANISH PAPER INTERVIEWS INTERIOR MINISTER BORGE

PM251655 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 21 Mar 82 pp 8-9

[Interview with Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Carlos Maria Gutierrez: "Our Struggle Against Somozaism Continues"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpt] A dictatorship transformed into a dynasty and equipped with all the levers of power and keys to the economy shaped the mentality of the majority of Nicaraguans for three generations. Borge acknowledges this effect of Somozaism and the widespread existence of this major obstacle.

"Somozaism," he said, "ceased being a government and became an attitude. It still is an attitude. The Somozas did much damage to this country, but the plundering of the nation or the assassinations were not the greatest damage: that was the influence which Somozaism managed to exert on the Nicaraguans' conduct. Our struggle against Somozaism therefore continues. Somozaism's legacy, following its military defeat, is not simply our indebtedness to other countries, our lack of capital and our economic ruin, but also the moral attitude held by many people, irrespective of their political stances. Corruption became normal here: whoever did not steal was a fool; whoever did not get rich in public office was an idiot. This has continued since the victory. Many people have thought that the new revolutionary government was also a source of satisfaction to egoistic appetites."

Question: Has this happened in the middle classes and the poorer sectors too?

Answer: In all sectors of society. We must combat relapses into Somozaism. This is in fact the most important struggle we are waging. It is contending with an ideology that Somozaism bequeathed as its investment in the future and that is reflected in personal conduct.

Question: Is it partly these conditions that led to the special kind of mixed economy that you have proposed, in which socialist elements and production relations from the past operate together?

Answer: I do not believe it has anything to do with this political decision by the Sandinist Front, which is an experiment in a new kind of economy. But we are realists and have our feet on the ground. We propose building a better kind of society, though still within a specific reality.

Question: Would the gradual consolidation of a mixed economy not affect the Sandinistas' objectives of more radical changes?

Answer: This kind of economy undoubtedly does cause difficulties with regard to planning--a vital element in a modern society. But other difficulties are the country's general backwardness and the lack of understanding shown by the Nicaraguan bourgeoisie of the political blueprint of the revolution. Nevertheless, the bourgeoisie are granted economic, but not political, concessions.

Question: Is the Sandinist blueprint ultimately a plan for socialism?

Answer: It moves in the direction of a new kind of society, within a very special conception of the people's revolution, let us call it, if you like, "a Sandinist society which embraces a mixed economy as a strategic guideline."

Question: What are the current adverse external and internal conditions for the revolutionary process?

Answer: The basic conflict is between the nation and imperialism. The internal forces hostile to the process are only an appendage of this fundamental conflict. The struggle between the workers and the old exploiter classes has now been resolved by the political solution of the revolution. It is now a struggle by the entire nation against U.S. imperialism.

Question: Many people believe that the functioning of a predominant private sector in the economy could even provide footholds among wage earners for the U.S. attempts.

Answer: These attempts do have some footholds here, but the elimination of our economic blueprint is the best excuse for attacking our revolution.

Question: Does the revolution at present have a real administrative capacity?

Answer: Every revolution has to tackle the problem of cadres; ours is no exception. The government is composed of those who fought, and the majority of our combatants had no opportunity to train as technical, scientific or administrative cadres. Of course we have serious problems with regard to cadres. And the continued existence of this mixed economy is partly due to the revolutionary state's inability, in its present phase, to administer all the country's production resources or to effectively farm all the land, and partly also, of course, to an international situation that distorts our external finance. In other words it is due to both internal and external factors. [answer ends]

It is not a very well-known fact that the Sandinist government had to imprison a sector of the Communist Party of Nicaragua [PCN], which apparently tried to claim powers out of proportion to its degree of involvement in the anti-Somoza movement. In this connection I asked Borge whether intellectuals and trained personnel of the non-Sandinist left have become sufficiently

integrated with the process to compensate for the shortage of middle-level cadres in the administration and government. Our conversation drifted to the attitude of the country's other political forces, which raised the issue of the relatively low profile which the PCN maintains under present conditions.

Borge explained: "Bear in mind that during World War II there developed in Latin America a deviation with very negative effects: Browderism (after Earl Browder, secretary general of the U.S. Communist Party, which at that time proposed an alliance of workers and bosses and, as a contribution to the war effort, the suspension of all pay demands, the suspension of strikes and even a change of name by communist parties--EL PAIS editor's note). This current not only helped to distort the Latin American communist and workers parties but also helped to present a distorted image of those parties to intellectuals and the masses. Browderism established the elimination of the class struggle in its theoretical conceptions and support for dictatorial regimes in Latin America, under the pretext of the antifascist struggle in Europe and Asia. This was the origin of the communist parties' discredit, which to a large extent explains why Latin American communist parties have hitherto failed to establish revolutionary struggles on this continent.

"The PCN," Borge added, "was created as recently as 1944, under the influence of Browderism, to support Somoza Senior. According to the Communist Party, Somoza was then 'a progressive expression of reality.'" What effect, Borge wonders, do conditions in Central America and the Caribbean have on the Nicaraguan revolution? Where do the support and the threats come from?

"In recent months imperialism has gained some positions in Latin America, that is, among the Latin American governments. It had lost ground to the anti-interventionist stance of various Latin American countries, headed by Mexico, precisely when the victory in Nicaragua occurred and Somoza withdrew from power. At that time the Sandinist revolution satisfied some expectations, frustrated others and frightened many people in Latin America. Then imperialism began to exert greater pressure, expressed specifically at the latest OAS meeting in Saint Lucia, at which only Nicaragua, Mexico and Grenada adopted a clearly anti-interventionist stance. We have many friends on the continent. We also have a considerable number of enemies; some very open, others very subtle."

Question: Where are your friends?

Answer: President Rodrigo Carazo of Costa Rica is a real friend of the Nicaraguan revolution, despite the fact that his country recently joined the so-called Central American Democratic Community. Apart from Carazo, other friends of our revolution have been President Aristides Royo of Panama and the late General Omar Torrijos.

Question: In other words, within the community, which you claim is a preparatory tool for U.S. aggression, you have a friend in Costa Rica.

Answer: President Carazo is a friend.

Question: What about the situation regarding Honduras, whose stance toward Nicaragua seems ambivalent, to say the least?

Answer: We hope to reach at least a minimum of understanding with Honduras, especially now that the military leadership there has defined its stance. There is a possibility of an imminent meeting between the Honduran defense minister and ours, Commander Humberto Ortega, which could help to clarify our relations with Honduras.

Question: What is expected of the Panamanian political system in the immediate future?

Answer: We do not expect Torrijos' death to have any rapid effects, that a certain degree of continuity will be maintained in Panamanian foreign policy.

Question: How would you define Cuba's presence within Nicaragua's international context? How would you define Nicaragua's relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist camp?

Answer: Our relations with Cuba and the socialist countries are very much connected with the Nicaraguan revolution's political decision to maintain relations with all countries of the world. Relations with Cuba have been very fraternal, very close. Cuba has helped us in a disinterested manner and has never imposed any conditions on us. As for our relations with the other socialist countries, they are those of mutual respect.

Question: What specific forms does the activity of Somozaists abroad against the regime here take?

Answer: This counterrevolutionary activity is not autonomous. It lies within the framework of U.S. interventionists' plans. But in the case of Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero--the tyrant's son--it is more a matter of gut hatred of Sandinism. You know that this man's direct and personal responsibility for the death of the journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro during his father's dictatorship has been proven. Now Somoza Portocarrero is using his family's substantial influence to organize special commando groups against the lives of the revolution's leaders. We have so far thwarted about 60 attacks, more than half of which were directed against me (but I lose no sleep over it).

In February a plan to blow up the country's only oil refinery and only cement works was thwarted and Borge himself paraded some of the conspirators at a press conference; they included Nicaraguans, Venezuelans and a Spanish citizen, Julio Gonzalez Ferron, who carried the documents of a special agent of the Venezuelan Military Intelligence Directorate. The sabotage plan was the subject of talks, via Gonzalez Ferron, between Nicaraguan conspirator William Baltodano and the Venezuelan military attache in Managua, Col Pedro Sanchez Rivera. But Borge said that he can distinguish between secret service conspiracies and government stances.

An counterrevolutionary activity carried out here by a Venezuelan citizen has nothing to do with the explicit solidarity shown by the Venezuelan Government toward the Nicaraguan revolution. Nor did the Venezuelan Embassy have anything to do with the incident--only some of its employees, who have already been properly identified.

Question: Does your government believe in an imminent military intervention in Nicaragua, either U.S. or, as has been insinuated, under the OAS flag?

Answer: It is rather unlikely but we do not rule it out completely.

Question: What makes it unlikely?

Answer: The new world situation. Nicaragua is not the Dominican Republic of 1965. Moreover Nicaragua is not the same as Vietnam. It would not be as easy as before.

The balance of forces in the world has changed; the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution itself is in a way a step in this change. The Latin American peoples would no longer accept a military intervention such as the one in the Dominican Republic. Moreover, the present OAS is very unlikely to make a break such as the one made with Cuba in the sixties. But we do not rule out the possibility of a military intervention bearing in mind that the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution and a possible victory by El Salvador's would mean a qualitative change in U.S. power abroad. Washington knows this and might in the last analysis, once other options are exhausted, decide on direct intervention.

Question: How equipped is Nicaragua to deal with a military intervention?

Answer: Such an intervention would virtually raze Nicaragua. We would have to return to people's warfare. What is certain is that we will never surrender. But obviously the Americans are in a position to take the cities and destroy the country. If that happens we will return to the mountains and wage a lengthy war. [answer ends]

On one wall of his office there is a photograph of Borge's father, the Matagalpa druggist Tomas Borge with a pistol in his belt, standing next to Augusto Cesar Sandino in a thirties guerrilla camp. The minister added, looking at the photograph:

"We would return to the situation Sandino knew, but with greater military sources and a more aware people. Moreover, what would happen in Central America? If Nicaragua is invaded there will be very serious repercussions. There would be a Vietnamization not only of Nicaragua but of the whole of Central America, perhaps even Latin America, time will tell."

C-11 2010/11/74

DANIEL ORTEGA CLOSES WOMEN'S MEETING

PA272003 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the government junta, said at the closing meeting of the continental women's meeting yesterday that with their presence in Nicaragua the delegates were helping to stop intervention.

The speech delivered by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega in closing the continental women's meeting on national independence and peace at the Cesar Augusto Silva center was received with a long ovation. He stressed the ideological pluralism of the event and the varied background of the delegates. He also emphasized the importance of the agreement to establish a continental women's front against intervention.

Commander Ortega warned that although imperialist circles, overwhelmed by domestic and international pressure, are beginning to speak about negotiations, the danger is not over. The only thing that the United States has guaranteed, he said, is that it will not send its own soldiers against soldiers; the meaning of this must be understood, he added.

The FSLN National Directorate member said that the Nicaraguan people are not going to allow themselves to be subjugated and invaded once again. We know, he said, that by preventing this we are helping the cause of peace and social justice in other parts of the world.

Here is a portion of the speech by Commander Daniel Ortega:

[Begin recording] On the international front, we are obliged to make efforts so that international public opinion, the serious and responsible governments and countries of the world, the organized women in the world and the peoples of the world generally will help to contain the aggression and intervention in Central America.

We think that with your presence in Nicaragua you are saying no to intervention. You are helping to stop the intervention. It is indicative that as we are approaching the days in which the possibilities of an aggression are greater, there has been considerable talk about peace proposals. We are happy that there is talk of peace proposals. All peace proposals are welcome. However, the important thing is that these peace proposals be consistent with reality.

In recent days, the Honduran Government has made peace proposals. Unfortunately, on the day that Honduras announced these peace proposals in Washington--at dawn that same day, the following day at dawn--attacks were launched from Honduran territory against Nicaraguan territory. Installations in Nicaraguan territory were damaged. You must have seen the effects of the damage in our country's media. Today at 1600, from the Guasaule River on the border with Honduras, Honduran soldiers have been firing at our soldiers. Our soldiers have not replied to the fire. Our soldiers are disciplined and do not let themselves be provoked. This is not the most serious thing. While Nicaragua took a proposal to the United Nations seeking to find a rapprochement with the United States, its immediate reply, through its representative--because we know that when the U.S. representative speaks at the Security Council, it is not she who is replying but the country that she represents--was one that totally contradicts any possibility of negotiations. [end recording]

001 3910/1174

CONTINENTAL WOMEN'S MEETING ISSUES DECLARATION

PA280054 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Summary] With a solemn ceremony at 1930 yesterday at the Cesar Augusto Silva recreational center, the continental women's meeting on national independence and peace ended after 3 days of sessions in Managua. Those present in the ceremony included Bayardo Arce, Daniel Ortega, Doris Tijerino, president of the event, Cuban women's leader Vilma Espin, guerrilla Commander Monica Baltodano and Ana Guadalupe Martinez, representative of the FMLN.

"Speeches were delivered by Commander Doris Tijerino, Salvadoran Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez and Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra."

An important document was issued at the ceremony ending the continental women's meeting. The document was read by Commander Doris Tijerino.

[Begin recording] "The peoples of America can no longer withstand the looting, exploitation and the humiliation they have suffered for decades. The efforts of America are heroically advancing on the path of freedom and sovereignty and will never take a step back. The women meeting here are conscious of this and we state the following:

"1. Our militant solidarity with the heroic people of Sandino and their revolution, victim of the policy of the current U.S. administration which is trying by all means to stop the peaceful course of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

"2. Our solidarity and support for the brother peoples of Cuba and Grenada who are building a more just society and are the permanent target of the aggressions and threats of the most reactionary sectors of imperialism.

"3. Our rejection of the Salvadoran genocide and our support for the Salvadoran patriots who are fighting for their freedom and self-determination."

4. Our repudiation of the slaughters in Guatemala.

5. Our firm decision that there will be no repeat of crimes such as those committed in Vietnam. It should not be forgotten that the imperialist aggressor was annihilated there.

6. Our rejection of the alliance between the U.S. administration and the most reactionary forces and dictatorships of our continent.

"7. Our decision to support a negotiated political solution in Central America, supporting all the peace initiatives of the Nicaraguan revolutionary government, Mexico, France and the Salvadoran patriots who seek to end the current serious situation that endangers world peace."

Our struggle is part of the struggle being waged in the world for peace and for a dignified and just life for each inhabitant of this planet. We demand our people's rights to be truly free and live in peace. Solidarity is present in our conscience and our action. Our unity is essential for victory. [end recording]

CSO: 3010/1174

TIMETABLE FOR DEMOCRATIZATION MIGHT BE CHANGED

PY261921 Paris AFP in Spanish 1358 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Melo, 26 Mar (AFP)--The possibility of changing government's plans for the country's redemocratization was officially confirmed today. Political sectors are said to be responsible for that.

Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad said in this northeastern city that the timetable for institutionalization has not been changed, and reiterated that the armed forces will fulfill the objective they set for themselves.

However, he admitted that there might be changes in the timetable for the execution of the redemocratization plan, observing that the cause for possible changes cannot be traced to the armed forces, but to political sectors which carry a great deal of responsibility in the democratization process.

Trinidad then affirmed that some citizens who have a great deal of responsibility so far failed to understand the government's thinking and objectives, although they still have time to review their position and to place the country's interests ahead of sectorial interests.

Through the president of the Political Commission, the armed forces last week warned political parties of the need to forego demagogic practices that could only disrupt the political timetable. At the same time, the armed forces stressed that responsibility for conducting the process is in the hands of the civilian-military government and that it has not yet given the green light for political parties to participate in public affairs.

CSO: 3010/1175

BRIEFS

DEVALUATION RUMORS DENIED--President Gregorio Alvarez has just confirmed that the Uruguayan currency will not be devalued. He also said that he did not go to Cerro Largo looking for votes. [Words indistinct] Alvarez discussing several topics of national interest during a press conference at noon today. The chief of state referred to the tour he made to the Cerro Largo Department which ended yesterday. He said that this was a work tour and not a political tour looking for votes. Regarding reports from Argentina that a large devaluation is going to take place [words indistinct] the tourist season, President Alvarez emphatically denied it. He added that a measure of that kind would also benefit those who have access to U.S. dollars which means only 5 percent of the population, to the detriment of the majority. [Excerpt] [PY262124 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Mar 82]

INTERNATIONAL RESERVES DROP--Montevideo, 17 Mar (AFP)--According to the Central Bank today, the Uruguayan international reserves have dropped 27 percent since the end of 1981. According to the bank's balance sheet the international reserves between 5 and 12 March dropped by \$30.7 million. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2320 GMT 17 Mar 82 PY]

BALANCE OF TRADE DEFICIT--The Central Bank has reported that the balance of trade registered a \$383,569,000 deficit in 1981 compared to the \$621,797,000 deficit in 1980. Exports totaled \$1,215,375,000 in 1981 while imports amounted to \$1,598,944,000 in the same year. Traditional and nontraditional exports amounted to \$513,046,000 and \$702,329,000 respectively in 1981. In the same year, oil imports reached \$515,531,000. [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 12 Mar 82 p 7 PY]

CENTRAL BANK CHAIRMAN APPOINTED--Lt Gen (Ret) Jose Dario Cardozo has taken over as chairman of the Central Bank's Executive Council. [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 6 Mar 82 p 1 PY]

NAVY APPOINTMENT--Navy Commander in Chief Vice Adm Rodolfo Invidio will swear in the new commander of the sea force Capt Yamandu Ubal on 3 March. [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 3 Mar 82 p 6 PY]

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DATE FILMED

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